



Nº 131 OCTOBER 1986 \$2.50

ROY COHN
Eulogy for
a creep

**HEAT OF
MANAGUA**
Alan O'Connor
wonders how
to read the
revolution

COUPLES WIN!
Vancouver lovers
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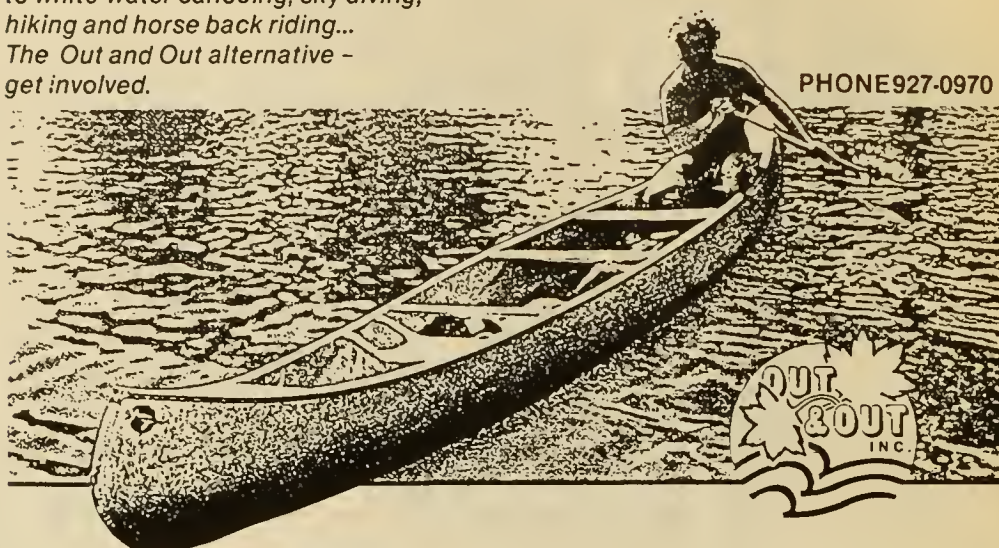


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Number 131
October 1986

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Lovers of some Vancouver city employees can now expect the same medical benefits enjoyed by their straight counterparts. Meet the two women who started it all.

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Poet Elsa Gidlow died in June at the age of 87. Michelle Belling recalls a life of independence, strength, beauty, song.

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A fastidious closet case and a reckless romantic — Commie-hunter Roy Cohn was both. A "kind of eulogy" for the man who died this year — of AIDS.

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The cover: Design by Ian King. Photo by Daniel Collins.

Gay and lesbian reading

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PUBLICATIONS

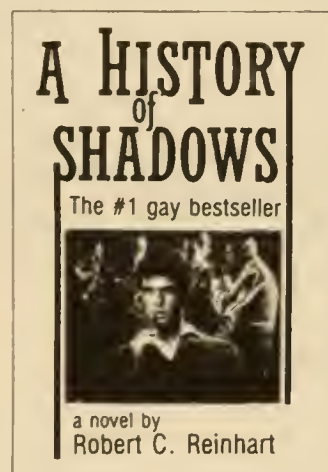


THE LITTLE DEATH, by Michael Nava, \$7.00. Henry Rios is becoming cynical about his job as a public defender. Then a man he has befriended — and loved — dies under suspicious circumstances. As he investigates the murder, Rios finds himself pitted against a wealthy dynasty that is as unyielding as the law he has studied — and far more ruthless.

"Congratulations on the debut of a promising new writer," writes Joseph Hansen.

THE HUSTLER, by John Henry Mackay; trans. by Hubert Kennedy, \$8.00. Gunther is fifteen when he arrives alone in the Berlin of the 1920s. There he discovers the boys of Friedrich Street, and the men who stroll by and speak with them. Soon he is spotted by Hermann Graff, a sensitive and naive young man who becomes hopelessly enamored with Gunther. But love does not fit neatly into Gunther's new life as a hustler. . . .

Gunther's story was first published in 1926. For today's reader, it combines a poignant love story with a colorful portrayal of the gay subculture that thrived in Berlin a half-century ago.



A HISTORY OF SHADOWS, by Robert Reinhart, \$7.00. Through the eyes of four older gay men, Reinhard depicts what it was like to grow up gay in America a half-century ago, and to live a closet life during the Depression, World War II, the McCarthy period, and the Sixties.

EIGHT DAYS A WEEK, by Larry Duplechan, \$7.00. Johnnie Ray Rousseau is a 22-year-old black gay pop singer whose day starts at 11 pm. Keith Keller is a white banker with a 10 o'clock bedtime — and muscles to die for. This story of their love affair is one of the most engrossing — and funniest — you'll ever read.

A FEMINIST TAROT, by Sally Gearhart and Susan Rennie, \$7.00. Reading the Tarot is an attempt to perceive and understand the conscious and unconscious reality surrounding a particular question or circumstance. Here is a widely-acclaimed guide to using the traditional Tarot, with all its richness and mystery, as a women's Tarot, exploring women's inner regions, and giving ear to women's inner voices.



ENTERTAINMENT FOR A MASTER, by John Preston, \$8.00. In this full-length novel, Preston continues the exploration of S&M sexuality that he began in *I Once Had a Master*. The narrator — and master — decides to stage an outrageous party for three close friends. Much of the activity is taken up in the recruitment of volunteers who will instruct, and entertain, the master's guests.

QUATREFOIL, by James Barr, \$8.00. The year is 1946, and Philip Froelich faces a court martial for acting insubordinate to a lazy officer during the closing days of World War II. Then he meets Tim Dancelaw, and soon the court martial is among the least of Phillip's concerns. . . .

This classic novel, first published in 1950, remains a romantic and suspenseful read, an intelligently-written love story that gives a vivid picture of our recent but often-forgotten past.



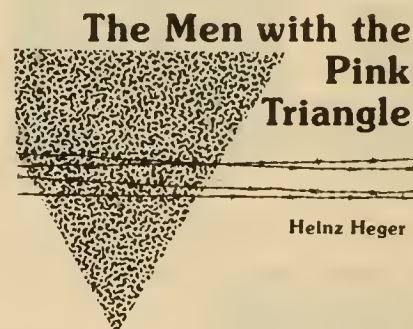
THE PRESIDENT'S SON, by Krandall Kraus, \$8.00. In the world of presidential politics, everything else can easily take a back seat to the quest for political power. This fast-paced novel centers around a president seeking re-election — and his son, whose homosexuality, the president's advisors agree, must be kept secret.

KINDRED SPIRITS, edited by Jeffrey Elliot, \$6.95. Science fiction offers a unique opportunity to portray gay and lesbian characters in a context free of present-day constraints. Here are twelve such stories, with very different visions of what it could one day mean to be gay.



MEDITERRANEO, by Tony Patrioli, \$12.50. Through some 46 photos, Italian photographer Tony Patrioli explores the homo-erotic territory in which, since the beginning of time, adolescent boys have discovered sex. (Oversize paperback)

COMING ALONG FINE, by Wes Muchmore and William Hanson, \$7.00. In their first book, *Coming Out Right*, Muchmore and Hanson discussed some of the challenges a man faces as he comes out. Here, they go further, discussing subjects ranging from problems with interpersonal relationships to the long-term anxieties caused by AIDS to the how-to's of setting up a gay business.



THE MEN WITH THE PINK TRIANGLE, by Heinz Heger, \$4.95. The true, gripping, life-and-death story of a gay man in the Nazi concentration camps — an important and nearly forgotten piece of our history.

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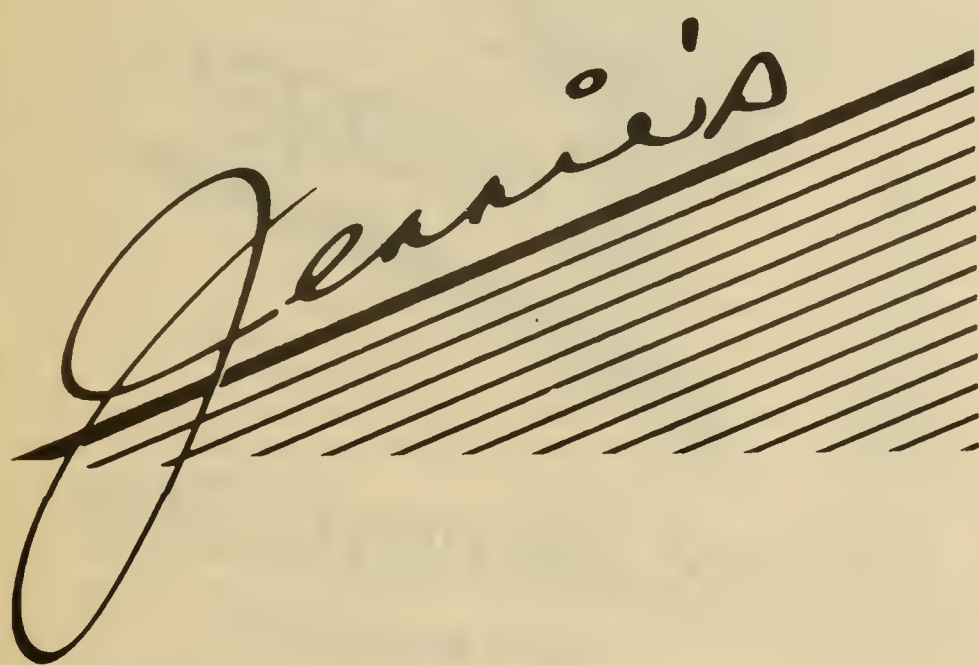
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LETTERS

Alberta vs C-114

I read your editorial on Bill C-114 in the August issue and it does not suffice to say that I agree with your views. I applaud them and am relieved other Canadians are as vigorous in their opposition to the Bill as I am.

We have to date seen thousands of letters forwarded to Ottawa. Our group in Edmonton alone has sent over 7,000 letters which were returned to us for dispatch. We can only guess at how many were sent directly. Calgary brags an even better response, but there all letters are sent by the individual. We have received wonderful support from gay clubs in the West (I am the lawyer for Edmonton's largest club, Flashback) as well as other businesses. A large Western-based chain of high-quality and tasteful sexual aids (The Love Shop) has seven branches from Vancouver to Winnipeg and is distributing our letter. The owner, based in Vancouver, has given our group all the help and financial assistance possible. All their shops are actively distributing the letter to their patrons. An interesting statistic — in the 14 years they have been in business, 3,500,000 people have purchased items in their shops. That's half the population of Western Canada! As you know, sexual aids are targeted in proposed section 159.8, as are any books, etc depicting "sexual things" prohibited from being displayed. The Love Shop proves that it is not "dirty old men in raincoats" who are making the purchases. Brenda Humber, owner of the chain, says it's more likely to be a couple with kids and a wood-panelled station wagon who purchase sexual aids, explicit movies and explicit books. The shop caters to "couples," straight or gay.

We have received extensive publicity, primarily in the Northern Alberta area, and only because I cannot meet commitments to attend interviews in other cities. We have had extensive exposure on radio, TV, newspapers, etc, overwhelmingly favourable. Letters to our committee have been unanimous in their support. (They have naturally been forwarded to the Justice Minister). In numerous phone-in talk shows, an estimated 70-80 percent of the calls have commended our group, but those opposed to us are vehemently outspoken. Recently, I had an opportunity to debate Rev Max Solbrekken (Edmonton's own "Jerry Falwell") on the air, and had him concede to our views that no one should be forced to choose whatever erotica they wished. Not surprising, after Rev Solbrekken's "born again liberalism" on the air, he was vilified by members of his own congregation and admitted to me after that this was the first time he was hated by both sides of an argument!

It is very depressing sometimes to live in ultra-right Alberta, even in this socialist island called Edmonton. Every day the letters to the editor in local papers become more depressing, diligently explaining the virtues of censorship, "sanitizing" Canada, reinstating the death penalty, etc. Still, at least in the West, rest assured that our group is doing everything it can to stop the wickedness and perversity behind the logic of Bill C-114.

Michael P Ritter
Chairman, Citizen's Committee for Freedom of
Choice with Regard to Sexual Morality
Edmonton

"I personally wish I had never been introduced to poppers. I think that poppers inflicted damage to my sinuses resulting in diminished capacity to smell."

Poppers dangerous?

I am surprised to see an ad for poppers on page 38 of the August 1986 edition.

Poppers suppress the immune system and are unhealthy in other ways.

The Committee to Monitor Poppers (c/o Hank Wilson, 55 Mason St, San Francisco, CA 94102) has written a bibliography of research on poppers. Also there is a brochure, funded by UCSF AIDS Health Project/SF Department of Health warning against the use of poppers.

I personally wish I had never been introduced to poppers. I think that poppers inflicted damage to my sinuses resulting in diminished capacity to smell. As an adolescent I had allergy-induced sinus infections about twice a year. After using poppers I began having sinus infections monthly.

One night at a bar several of my friends were having a good time, drinking and dancing hard. Unknown to them one of their companions, although a young man, had a heart condition. Poppers were the added load his body could not take. He stopped breathing. One of them noticed, gave him mouth-to-mouth resuscitation, and the group took him to a hospital emergency room to make sure he stabilized.

Poppers are a chemical that neither our government (USA) nor yours has investigated as a drug or as a consumer product. The product in pure form is not safe. Furthermore, there is no government inspection or quality control to know what contaminants might be in any particular brand or batch.

Therefore I recommend that you run articles about the detriments of poppers and refuse ads for poppers.

Mark Smith
Fort Worth, Texas

AIDS-fund response

I very much enjoyed the August edition of TBP, particularly the amount of coverage of Edmonton events and issues. Your article on Ross Armstrong and the Memorial Fund was well done and very much appreciated. The response to the Ross Armstrong Fund has been very encouraging and very timely. We have recently become aware of several individuals who will benefit greatly from the Fund, and while we are saddened by their situation, we are glad to be able to be of help to them.

David Airth
AIDS Network of Edmonton

Moncton debut

I am writing to you on behalf of GLM (Gays and Lesbians of Moncton) to perhaps better inform your staff, as well as your many readers, of what is happening within the gay community here in Moncton.

We, the gay community, have, over the last few years, had an uphill struggle to start, let alone maintain, a social and educational life, but the top of that hill has now been reached. At the moment, we are holding two GLM dances on Friday and Saturday evenings with an average attendance of 240 men and womyn. The lesbian faction of our community has held three dances for womyn only and large turn-outs for these evenings has also proved to be highly successful.

Another aspect of our gay community which has proved to be an overwhelming success since its implementation in early February of this year is our Gayline. The line is in operation, maintained by 15 volunteers, three evenings per week from 7-9:30pm. For the information of your readers, our Gayline number is (506) 858-1013.

Our largest effort will come about this Thanksgiving weekend (October 10-12) with the holding of our Atlantic Conference, with the theme of Homosexuality and You. This weekend is hoped to be an educational as well as socially successful weekend for the delegates from all four Atlantic provinces, as well as northern Maine. A total of ten workshops have been scheduled, with a number of top-notch speakers on hand to conduct these workshops. Also, two dances, a variety show by GLM members, and a wine and cheese party are also part of this special event. Consensus to date indicates that we shall have a large turnout from locals as well as out-of-town guests.

So, as you can see, we in Moncton have come a long way in a short time — a feat we all can be very proud of, and we are.

RE (Bob) DeWitt

Education Committee

Gays and Lesbians of Mocton, Box 7102, River-view, NB E1B 1V0.

Hatton hurrah!

I have almost always been pleased with the graphic design of The Body Politic's front covers, but you have really outdone yourselves with the August issue. While admittedly gender-specific, the Norman Hatton Photograph which graces the August cover is a highly sensual, gripping and wholly erotic image. To Norman Hatton and the Collective: keep up the good work — or perhaps more to the point — let the good work keep us up!

Steven Maynard

Kingston

CARBON COPIES

Ron Nelson

CKLN Radio, Toronto

You were correct: some people were offended by your battle of the DJ's Rap Tape August 9. Lyrics (if we can call them that) such as "Faggot faggot, you're nothing but a maggot" are very offensive. How would you like to hear a rap like:

Nigger nigger, you make me snigger
your black face makes me pull my trigger."

Discrimination based on sexual orientation, like discrimination based on colour, is not a joke. I am surprised you are so naïve regarding this issue.

It's blindness by people
like Ron Nelson
That let all the Jews
End up in Belsen.

Eat that Rap Ron, and next time please have more consideration.

Rick Wong

Toronto

National Geographic Magazine

Washington, DC

My enjoyment of Boyd Gibbons's article, The Intimate Sense of Smell (September 1986), came to a jarring halt on page 355:

Behind such reluctance may be the fear of sending the wrong message. On the way out of the building I found myself on an elevator with a man in tight pants, an earring in his lobe, and eyes like Carol Channing's. He fluttered his big eyelashes and said, "Saaay, what is that marvelous fragrance you're wearing?" I mumbled something about IFF's nest odor, as I considered an exit through the roof.

I never expected to find distorted, demeaning and homophobic material in a publication the calibre of National Geographic Magazine.

Mr Gibbons's description of a fellow-traveller on an elevator is, to say the least, regrettable. It is an insult to your readership and the high standards of integrity one associates with your publication. It is doubly unfortunate because the young people who read National Geographic will come to this passage where a human being is set up to ridicule, accept as true the outré stereotypes used to describe a homosexual and see there is nothing wrong in making fun of him.

Gays are not triggered into a sexual frenzy by perfume, nor do they assume a person is gay because he smells of perfume. As for speech, they speak English as well if not better than most people, without the need of camp.

The National Geographic Magazine is not the National Enquirer. An apology would be appreciated.

Maurice Leblanc

Ottawa

The Body Politic welcomes your letters. Send them to us at: Letters, TBP, Box 7289, Stn A, Toronto ON M5W 1X9. Letters selected for publication may be edited for length.

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Vancouver municipal union successfully negotiates spousal benefits for lovers of gay employees

Lovers win health benefits

Gay and lesbian lovers of some Vancouver municipal employees can now sit in the dentist's chair — just like their straight counterparts who have long enjoyed union medical coverage extended to a worker's spouse. The Vancouver Municipal Regional Employees Union (VMREU) has successfully negotiated benefits for gay clerical and support staff employed by the Vancouver School Board and the Langara College Students Union.

Equality provisions included with the benefit package give same-sex partners access to medical, dental and other entitlements, such as compassionate leave, that were already available to heterosexual couples.

Openly gay VMREU executive member Bob Webster, who helped navigate the equality package through negotiations to victory, says his union will use this precedent to bargain for similar inclusion in other contracts. The union plans to press for these benefits for the gays among its 3,000 inside civic employees.

Webster attributes the scarless win at the school board level to the fact that the left-leaning Committee of Progressive Electors (COPE) controls all nine seats on Vancouver's school board. "If it were a 5-4 situation, the negotiators wouldn't have wanted to go through all the hassle," he said.

Momentum is growing. When asked if all gay municipal workers should receive partner coverage, COPE school trustee Sadie Kuehn commented that "as a matter of principle any spouse or partner should be covered for the purposes of benefits." She said the details should be decided at the bargaining table by both sides.

VMREU staff representative Glen Hillson thinks getting spouse coverage will be more difficult across the board municipally unless members are prepared to back it up with a strike vote. Last year, he said, the demand was put forward and dropped early in the negotiations.

Part of the problem in getting health benefits extended appears to be the confusion on the part of both employers and unions as to exactly who will meet health insurance guidelines. This is further complicated by the rigid regulatory policies of insuring agencies, many of whom rule out same-sex partners because Revenue Canada and Canadian human rights legislation (apart from that of Quebec) do not recognize a gay partnership.

TBP contacted BC's two major administrators of group health insurance and found a wide discrepancy in their policies. The executive director for the Medical Services Association (MSA), John Seney, told TBP that his firm uses Revenue Canada's guidelines. The MSA would administer a plan that deviated from those guidelines only if the employer agreed to pay the additional expenses, he said. On the other hand, Gwen Grunsell, promotions officer for CU&C Health Services Society, said CU&C would honour any request for same-sex coverage from any group or contract holder. "It would be no problem what-



photo: Daniel Collins

Time was ripe: Teacher Krin Zook (right) got union backing to win spousal medical benefits for her lover of seven years, Annette Clough.

soever," she said.

It was precisely the news of this CU&C policy that prompted lesbian teacher Krin Zook to pursue dental coverage for her lover of seven years. Zook decided last Christmas that it was about time that her lover, Annette Clough, received benefits as a spouse. They were ready to do battle, armed with joint proof of shared expenses over a several-year period.

Zook asked the Vancouver School Board to process the details for her lover's coverage. In February the board refused her request and wrote her a letter stating, "Our insurance won't let us do that." The alternate education teacher then filed a grievance with VMREU and asked her union to include the clause in its list of contract demands to provide access to benefits for the spouses of lesbian and gay employees.

To Zook's astonishment her motion to add the amendment to contract demands passed unanimously with the union membership. It later sailed through the bargaining process to ratification without a hitch.

She agrees the time was ripe: the all-COPE school board and open gays in her union leadership were crucial.

Shortly afterwards, conditions were again right for negotiation of a second same-sex clause in another VMREU contract. This time around both the union's executive liaison, Bob Webster, and the chair (and actual employer) of the Lang-

ara College Students Union, John Custodio, were openly gay. Because the Vancouver School Board had just accepted spouse coverage, it became a mutually agreed-to clause. Both sides wanted it.

Unless benefits are made public, workers who have earned them may never know about them. This appears to have happened with another bargaining unit of the VMREU. Executive member Steven Baker said he thinks no one among the 300 support staff at the Vancouver Community College has taken advantage of the fact that the definition of spouse changed two years ago. He thinks the definition in the 1985-86 contract could definitely apply to gay people. Baker said it didn't surprise him that nobody applied for it, since it would mean coming out on the job. "The meaning would be subject to the interpretation of the employer; but my guess is that if someone applied for it he or she would receive the benefits," he added.

Another VMREU negotiator agrees. Tom Kavadias pointed to the existing non-discrimination protection and said the employer knew that, if the union didn't get the medical benefits this way, they would simply apply under the "grey area of non-discrimination." He predicted the employer would yield rather than go through that hassle.

"All these things are possible if gays are persistent in demanding that their leadership push for

these benefits" is the advice from gay activist David Carrell, who sits on the BC Federation of Labour human rights committee. He hails the recent VMREU advance as a giant step forward. "It's not just symbolic. It means that your employer and your union are accepting a non-stereotype version of gay people as human beings," he said.

Carrell feels the greatest obstacle for gays at the moment is complacency. "People have gotten used to soft-peddling gay rights and they have a false sense of what is possible in these times," he said. Even his own union, the Canadian Union of Postal Workers, where gays and lesbians hold key leadership roles, missed the boat last year on spouse benefits. "It wasn't brought up because we assumed it would be automatic," he said, "but we will definitely get it in the contract this year."

Meanwhile, yet another BC union is dealing with this issue. Elizabeth Snyder, a lesbian college instructor, has fought since last fall to have her lover of three years, Maureen Bostock, covered under her employer's medical plan, which extends coverage to common-law spouses. Snyder lives in the northern BC community of Usk (population 40), outside Terrace, and has the backing of her union, the BC Government Employees Union.

Rob Joyce ●

OHIP under fire

Lesbians continue to fight for family benefits

A Toronto woman is continuing her battle with the Ontario Health Insurance Plan (OHIP) to win family coverage for her lover and her lover's two children.

Karen Andrews, a clerical supervisor at the Parliament Street branch of the Toronto Public Library, is preparing to take a grievance against her employer to arbitration in an effort to get OHIP coverage. Andrews filed the grievance March 5, 1985 when she discovered that her lover, Mary Trenholme, and Trenholme's two teenage daughters could not be covered by existing policy.

The agreement that Andrew's employer, the Toronto Public Library Board, holds with the Canadian Union of Public Employees, (CUPE) Local 1996, guarantees family coverage to those employees who need it. The collective agreement also contains a no-discrimination clause in which "sexual orientation" is included as one of the grounds upon which the Board must not discriminate against its employees. Andrews argues that since the Board had agreed not to discriminate against her on this basis, then they are bound to pay for benefits for her family.

Half of the battle was won late last year when Cumba, a private insurance company covering the Library's employees, reversed its decision not to extend dental and drug benefits to cover Trenholme and her children (TBP, Dec 1985). However, OHIP and the Ontario Municipal Employees Retirement Savings Plan, the Library's pension plan, designate that a "spouse" must be of the opposite sex to the claimant.

The case is set to go to arbitration on October 24, and a decision is expected sometime in December. Meanwhile, Andrews and CUPE are considering taking her case to the Supreme Court of Canada. Andrews told TBP that she will claim discrimination against Trenholme on the basis of her sex, since the Charter of Rights does not include sexual orientation as prohibited grounds

for discrimination.

Both Andrews and Mary Cook, past president of CUPE Local 1996, stress the importance of the case to lesbians and gays. Andrews hopes that the case will set an important precedent, alerting others to the possibility of receiving family benefits from their company carrier. She feels that Cumba is "quite progressive" in its attitude toward insuring lesbian and gay families, and reports that Canada Life, another large company, is reconsidering its position on the issue. Cook told TBP that a similar case is being launched at Carleton University in Ottawa, and that the progression of the case depends upon the outcome of Andrew's case.

Andrews is pleased with the support she has received from her union. The CUPE national or-

ganization has agreed to finance the court case and has provided Andrews with a lawyer. Cook stresses that "gay rights have always been an important issue for CUPE." Although she expects the pension plan battle (to have Trenholme receive an ongoing pension in the event of Andrews' death) to be "difficult," she says that the local has contacted Bob Rae (leader of the provincial New Democrat Party) and has received his moral support.

The Supreme Court action awaits the resumption of the Ontario Legislature and the consideration of Bill 7, which proposes the inclusion of sexual orientation as prohibited grounds for discrimination in the Ontario Human Rights Code. Should the bill pass, Andrews will still take action, but it will then be in an Ontario provincial court.

Andrews says that she and Trenholme remain committed to "making people aware and to setting an important precedent for lesbian and gay families."

Lynn MacFie •

Left to right: Mary Trenholme, daughter Kirsten, and Karen Andrews.



Photo: Daniel Collins

Gays and lesbians turned off by conference

VANCOUVER — Organizational and political difficulties at the closing plenary session of the second worldwide conference of community radio stations resulted in the exclusion of lesbian and gay liberation from the conference's statement of political purpose.

The conference, known by its French initials AMARC, took place in Vancouver July 25-29. More than 300 participants from 31 nations took part in five days of workshops and discussions.

There was no visible lesbian or gay presence at AMARC 1, held in Montreal in 1983. The organizers of the Vancouver conference ensured that there would be a workshop on gay radio at AMARC 2.

There was also a supplementary meeting of the gay and lesbian caucus which drew up a resolution for the plenary session encouraging community radio stations to have gay and lesbian content and programming. But the final plenary

was snowed under by resolutions and the resolution on gay programming was one of a large number to be referred to a post-conference committee.

Most of the business at the final plenary concerned a serious North-South split. Representatives from Latin America, the Caribbean, Africa, Asia and the Pacific argued strongly that much of the conference had little relevance to their needs.

AMARC started as a biennial conference, but it was decided to transform it into a permanent international organization. A statement of political purpose drafted by Peter Lewis (England) did not include support for gay and lesbian liberation. Lewis clearly intended to include all progressive political struggles and so I suggested from the floor that the addition be made. The chair refused to allow a spoken amendment and therefore the statement of political purpose of AMARC passed with no mention of the lesbian and gay movement.

There are gay radio stations in France, Denmark, Sweden, Norway and Finland. It is estimated that in addition there are 80 lesbian and gay radio shows on community radio stations throughout the world.

The address of AMARC 2 is 337 Carral St, Vancouver, BC V6B 2J4. Alan O'Connor •

Porn bill dies; resurrection by Tories feared

Two controversial bills that would have severely curtailed pornography have died as the federal government ended the first session of the 33rd parliament August 28. If the government wishes to push ahead with the legislation, the bills will have to be reintroduced in the new session.

The two bills, introduced by former federal justice minister John Crosbie, addressed "child sexual abuse" and defined the kinds of pornography that would constitute indictable offences. The bills prompted an outcry from a range of political groups who were mostly uncomfortable with the far-reaching definitions. "Pornography," for example, was defined to mean "any visual matter showing vaginal, anal or oral intercourse, ejaculation, sexually violent behaviour, bestiality, incest, necrophilia, masturbation or other sexual activity."

The move by the federal Conservatives has not surprised some of the concerned parties interested in the outcome of the bills. The Canadian

Committee Against Customs Censorship (CCACC) is assuming a cautious approach. "It is a prime opportunity for the Conservatives to re-evaluate poor legislation," said CCACC spokesperson Christine Bearchell, noting that the government may adopt a sneak-it-through-the-back-door approach by watering down the wording but leaving the effect of the bills intact.

Echoing Bearchell's sentiments is noted author June Callwood who viewed the process with scepticism. "I'm sure it's going to be rewritten," Callwood said. She hoped, however, that the legislation would be left alone, reasoning that it was so bad, it had a greater likelihood of not passing.

Susan G Cole, a prominent contributor to Broadside, a feminist review, called the move "a convenient way for the Tories to get off a jam. I would be surprised if it came back to Parliament with the same wording."

Cole, who disfavours using the Criminal Code to control pornography and related violence, felt the bills were misogynist. "If they (the government) are going to control women while controlling pornography, well, I'm not interested," she said.

The legislation could be reintroduced after the throne speech opening the new session and hurried through Parliament, if the Opposition cooperates. Andrew Lesk •

Coming VANCOUVER

History of gay and lesbian politics. The Association for Social Knowledge (ASK) is holding a public panel on the local homosexual political movement's history on Oct 4 at the West End Community Centre. Contact Doug Sanders at 734-4715 for more information.

Tosca's Kiss. An uplifting documentary about a home for elderly opera stars in Milan. Vancouver East Cinema, 7th Av and Commercial. Oct 3 through 9.

MONTREAL

Save Our Children. Jeunesse Lambda/Lambda Youth will be celebrating its tenth anniversary on Nov 15 with a coffeehouse entitled Save Our Children. Featured are local talents and dramatic/comic skits by the young people of Lambda. 1455 De Maisonneuve Boulevard W, room H-651, Concordia University. Begins at 8:30pm; \$2/4; no alcohol.

MONCTON

Atlantic Conference. Oct 10-12, Nursing Building, Université de Moncton. Workshops include AIDS, Health and Promiscuity; Homosexuality and the Bible; Coming out to family and friends; Gay parents and parenting; Aging gays; lesbian culture; loving relationships. Other activities planned include two dances, a variety show and a wine and cheese party. Call (506) 858-4181 for more information. •

ONCE UPON A TIME

Five years ago:

October 7, 1981: The first lesbian pride march in Toronto — Dykes in the Streets — takes place, sponsored by Lesbians Against the Right.

But is it art?

Vancouver restaurant fights city council to preserve display

VANCOUVER — A bitter feud between patrons of a 24-hour restaurant and the city of Vancouver licensing department has erupted over whether four "tough drag" mannequins perched atop a gay café in a sawed-off convertible should remain as part of an awning display or be removed to comply with civic permit bylaws.

In question is the Doll and Penny's Café promotional gimmick: an overhanging display of the 1967 Pontiac Strato Chief car shell boasting flamboyant lifelike figures erected without the mandatory permit.

The piece of erotic bait used to lure EXPO tourists has been so successful that another local restaurant made application for approval to place an entire car on its roof.

The city got wind of the violation after a newspaper photo story featured co-owners Craig Russel (not the movie star) and Vic Yehia with mannequin in tow in the Pontiac. The following day civic officials appeared on the scene.

After giving the exterior a thorough going over, property use inspector Art O'Neill said he concluded the awning display was "an unsightly thing." Although not finding it obscene, O'Neill was shocked to find that some mannequins sported dresses, wigs and wore bushy moustaches and skimpy panties. "I've looked up their kilts and they were wearing underwear," he told TBP. This, he gave his assurance, had no bearing on his decision to rule that a violation had taken place.

Complicating the intrigue, a dispute has further arisen concerning who held responsibility for obtaining the civic permit: the restaurant or the West Coast Awning Company, which installed the \$5,000 structure. Russel insists it was up to the installers and refuses to pay the bill. He himself applied to the City for permission after the fact, but was turned down.

Push came to shove in late August when awning workers returned to Doll and Penny's roof

and slashed down the canvas covering protecting the display. Russel applied for and claims he received a Supreme Court injunction ordering the awning company to stay off the property.

Neil Hughes, West Coast Awning's owner, sees it differently. "We removed the top cover because there was no payment of invoice after 120 days. They refuse to pay so we'll take them to court for payment," he said. He cannot recall whether his staff damaged the cover while removing it.

Over 3,500 patrons and every business establishment — straight and gay — on the Davie Street strip have rallied to save the exotic piece of urban homoerotic advertising. They have signed petitions asking City Council to bend the rules and let the car, its contents and floodlights stay.

Even more traditional businesses have joined the fray. Bill McConnachie, manager for Shopper's Drug Mart on Davie Street, thinks the display is "fairly unique, neat and artistic."

"It's not dangerous and doesn't infringe on anybody's rights," he said.

Russel, in an attempt to pep up his popular battle to appease civic bureaucrats, has gone so far as to remove the moustaches from the mannequins to keep the winning attraction that has increased his business. He was complying with advice from his lawyer, Charles Sandberg, who advised that, if the drag figures appeared to be female instead of male, the City might soften its stand and back off.

City officials are adamant that the situation is straightforward. "It poses a safety hazard to passers-by and was constructed without a development permit," said O'Neill. "So it has to be removed. As far as we're concerned it would be the same thing if there were a bunch of ice boxes up there."

O'Neill's supervisor concurs. "It's a simple matter of a projecting sign that is not permitted under sign bylaws," John Handkamer comment-

ed. "If they don't remove it, we'll have to follow up with a prosecution letter."

Russel stands by the safety of the structure. "We've got an engineer's seal of approval. It's so secure it could hold a 30,000 lb weight," he said. He estimates the entire display weighs less than 300 lbs.

Meanwhile, support for the ad art is mounting. Every other restaurant wants one too. Another gay restaurant down the block loves its "originality." "It's wonderful," said Hamburg Mary's owner Steve Potter. "We'd put one on our building too if we had half a car."

With the momentum growing at the rate of 150 new signatures each day, it will make for one interesting City Council meeting September 30, when the restaurant appears before a special request order hearing.

Rob Joyce ●

Expo '86 honcho gives brush-off to MCC request to hold pride service

VANCOUVER — Efforts by the local congregation of the Metropolitan Community Church (MCC) to have the church's founder, Rev Troy Perry, lead an interfaith religious service at EXPO 86 during Gay Pride Week in August got a quick brush-off from the fundamentalist preacher appointed by EXPO kingpin Jim Pattison to screen out unworthy applicants seeking to worship God Sunday mornings at the Kodak Pacific Bowl.

Rev Gordon MacDonald, pastor of Calvary Community Pentecostal Church, told the MCC they couldn't lead a weekly service because they were not members of the Christian Council of Churches (CCC). MCC membership in CCC was denied on the grounds that the gay church was not accountable to any outside ecclesiastical jurisdiction.

Ernie Lacasse, Vancouver's MCC pastor, couldn't say for certain whether homophobia was a factor in EXPO's decision to exclude MCC. Lacasse said he frequently visits the fair in his leather regalia and has never felt any negative response.

Another MCC board director, Gordon Demers, believes EXPO's refusal makes "a valid point because Lacasse cannot perform a marriage." Demers does concede however that his lover had been hassled on the way out of EXPO's religious pavilion.

The Pavilion of Promise, sponsored by Pentecostal Crossroads Christian Communications, hosts daily television interviews from the site via 100 Huntley Street.

The pavilion uses high-tech lasers with live dance to accompany its modern musical story of the Bible. The multi-media show packs in about 5,000 people daily. It is narrated by Malcolm Muggeridge, backed up by the National Philharmonic of London, England.

MacDonald insists his decision to reject MCC's application had nothing to do with homosexuality or his personal stand against the lifestyle. He said procedures were set in place with EXPO's boss, Jim Pattison, and there are no appeals.

Rev Paul McKinnon, chair of the Council of Christian Churches, feels his group was used as a way out by MacDonald. "They've got different standards all around for letting people use the Kodak Bowl," he said. "It is a homophobic, anti-gay stance, how else could you describe it? They have a fundamental disagreement with MCC's social policy of same-sex marriages and partnering," he said. McKinnon knows of many churches who have led services at EXPO but did not belong to CCC.

As for the religious pavilion, he said 100 Huntley Street came in with the money to buy themselves a corporate commercial pavilion — just like Kodak and McDonald's restaurants.

Earlier this summer a lawsuit unsuccessfully challenged the Pavilion of Promise, charging that it was too narrow in its religious outlook. Aziz Khaki of the Interfaith Citizenship Association tried but failed to halt the evangelistic domination of the fair.

One MCC board director who negotiated with EXPO for the special gay pride service threw his hands up when asked about the issue. "The whole affair is run by fundamentalists right up to Jim Pattison," complained MCC member Daryl Roberts. "They are running programmes offsite for ex-gays and they sponsor the Homosexuals Anonymous organization," he said.

Numerous attempts to contact EXPO officials were referred to Rev MacDonald who, one EXPO employee suggested, was operating in isolation.

Rob Joyce ●

ONCE UPON A TIME

Ten years ago:

September 17, 1976: In Toronto, gay activist Brian Mossop is expelled from the Communist Party of Canada for advocating homosexuality.

October 9-11, 1976: The National Lesbian Conference is hosted in Ottawa by the Lesbian Organization of Ottawa. Michael Totzke ●



photo: Daniel Collins

▼ The original printing...

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I am a 22 year old Black male and my lover is a 19 year old white male. We have been lovers for 4 months and have experienced most sexual positions and situations except for anal sex. We want to try it very much but we are afraid of the AIDS virus. How does one do it safely?

We in the Midwest

(Editor's note: If you want to believe there is a safe way to have anal intercourse, which not everyone believes, then heed the advice of most AIDS information organizations and use a rubber. Odds are very high that in the final analysis anal intercourse will be named as the main cause of the spread of the AIDS virus among gay men. Is a rubber completely safe? The rubber may insure that semen isn't directly discharged into the rectum, but how the rubber is used, how it fits the wearer, how the act of anal intercourse is conducted — all those are salient points to consider. Has the rubber come off halfway through the act? Is seminal fluid seeping out of the rubber during the act? Rather than use a rubber, use a dildo — each person should have their "own" dildo that no one else uses. The sensation will be the same. The sexual intimacy will be the same. The dildo is 100% safe as long as it is limited to individual use.)

BRING 'EM ON!

Bring on all the uncuts! That's only natural! That guy from New Jersey who wrote that about uncuts not being sexy doesn't know what he's talking about. It really turns me on to see a hard big uncut dick. The medical profession is trying to make all dicks look alike.

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(Editor's note: We're firm believers in equal time for all kinds of big meat: black, white, Hispanic, thick, thin, cut, uncut. And that's just the kind of meat you'll find in these pages.)

ADVICE

You print the best picks ever where do you find them? Raul, in your March 86 issue, would be great to look at in color. Let's see more men like him with hair on their chests.
When you run out of big picks, why not start showing the guys with the biggest balls? You could save the guys with the biggest nipples for last.

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Waterbury, CT

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How about some good satirical advice from you big cock experts? My dick (unfortunately) does not increase a great deal when it is rock-hard erect. However, it hangs normally at 8" (top front base to tip) and is 2" wide. Usually it is in place and show in the locker room, but not a luck rod contest winner.

Most of my buddies wear snug jeans or trousers, and show a sexy jockey short bulge which I admire. In jockey shorts, my length won't bunch up for a nice, undeformed front bulge. It tucks back between, and just is not discernible as a trouser bulge.

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knee. This creates plenty of attention and probably more than my intention of appearing not just totally sexless.

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G D

Oklahoma
(Editor's note: In some circles as I'm sure you're aware, the sight of your cock running down your pants leg is much more a turn on than even the roughest of bulges at the fly. Unless, of course, it's as round as a basketball. You might try something like a jock-sock usually made of a material with give, like jersey, and constructed with an elastic waistband like a jock strap, but without the rigid, without back straps — which might mar the purely artistic effect of your well-rounded butt in your jeans. A jock-sock would cup your balls under your shaft and make the whole bulge look more like a thick loaf than a long tube. Mail order companies like International Male sell jock-socks and their offspring. Probably most of our readers would like to see what your dick looks like hanging down in your pants, as well as just hanging down between your legs.)

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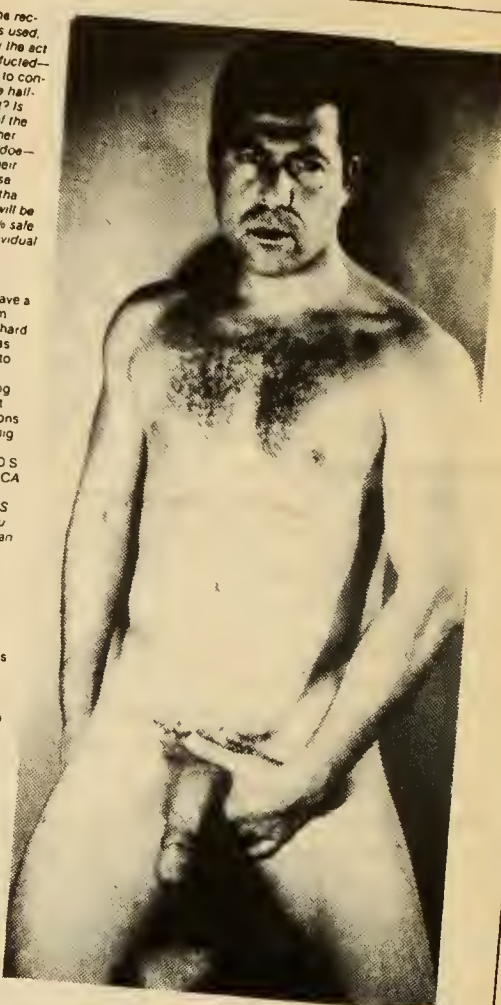
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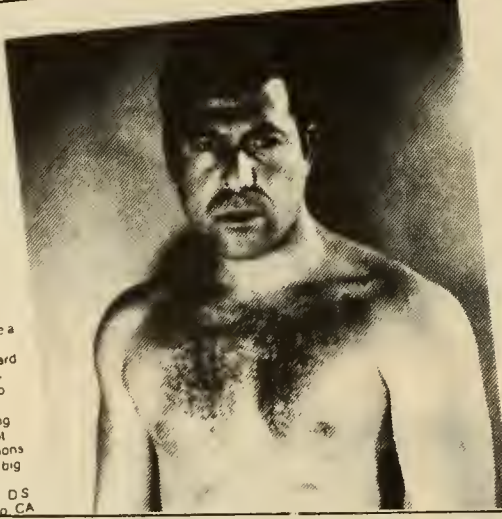
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Glad Day Book Shop in Toronto has reported 13 seizures of printed material since July 21 en route to Toronto from its Boston subsidiary.

The seizures are the result of the application of Canada Custom's Tariff Item 99201-1, prohibiting the entry of printed matter which depicts "sexual acts that appear to degrade or dehumanize any of the participants."

Among the magazines and books seized under this regulation are:

<i>In Touch</i> (#115, 116)	340 copies
<i>Hot Shots</i> (August)	75 copies
<i>First Hand</i> (May-July)	226 copies
<i>Drummer</i> (#82, 94, 95, 96)	65 copies
<i>Studflix</i> (August)	30 copies
<i>Dungeon Master</i> (#30)	20 copies
<i>Honcho Overload</i> (September)	50 copies
<i>Jock</i> (July-August)	110 copies
<i>Male</i> (August)	50 copies
<i>Manscape</i> (August)	50 copies
<i>Mach</i>	40 copies
<i>Bad Attitude</i>	40 copies
<i>Men Loving Men</i> by Mitch Walker	5 copies

Little Sisters, in Vancouver, has also had some shipments of material seized by Customs:

Bad Attitude
New York Native (June)

A reader in Saskatchewan reports the seizure from his mail of a Tom of Finland series of drawings, *Slave Market*.

Canada Customs is not only responsible for the seizure of books and magazines but also for the censorship of the material that does manage to get into the country.

Glad Day has two copies of the June issue of *Inches* showing the discrepancy between the original and the one tampered with by Canada Customs. Information on safe sex and AIDS was excised before the issue could gain entry into Canada.

The seizures at Glad Day and Little Sisters represent close to 1,000 books and magazines at a wholesale cost of more than \$5,000.

Strangely enough, some of the above mentioned titles are available at other bookstores in Toronto.

Robert Pennant

...and what we got. ▲

The force isn't with you

Canadian Forces survey shows bias

A Charter Task Force survey on the question of admitting homosexuals into the military has been distributed to approximately 8,000 Canadian Forces (CF) personnel. TBP has acquired a copy of this document from Gays of Ottawa, who received it from the federal government through the Freedom of Information Act.

The compulsory, nation-wide survey is a project of the Charter Task Force, created in March after then-federal justice minister John Crosbie said homosexuals should not be denied entry into the forces.

The survey, while noting that this is a subject that may rouse many different emotions, states that its purpose is to provide the task force "with the essential scientific data they require to carry out their mission on the critical issue."

Just how this survey provides conclusive "scientific" data is a point to ponder. For example, in measuring the "Attitude Scale" of CF personnel with regards to homosexuals, the survey poses mostly negative statements; 22 of the 30 statements in this part (partially reprinted here) portrays homosexuals (both male and female) in a distinctly unfavourable light. While respondents are free to disagree with any of these statements, this type of biased wording reflects the true spirit of the document and can only be a reflection of the mindset of those who created it — namely, CF brass.

The survey also asks CF personnel to estimate the number of homosexuals in Canada and in the Canadian Forces; to determine the effect on the sexual orientation of heterosexual service personnel homosexual enrolment might entail; and to consider the possibility of feuding between heterosexuals and known homosexuals.

Under "General Attitudes" personnel are asked how they feel about sex crimes, such as rape and attacks on children and if honest people admit to themselves that they have sometimes hated their parents. The survey later mentions that "if the answers to these questions were not important to our research or if there were another way to obtain the information, we would not have asked."

The task force's final report, due October 1, will incorporate the results of this survey.

Andrew Lesk

-6-

PART 3 - ATTITUDE SCALE (MALE)

Directions: The following statements express opinions, beliefs, and feelings different people have about male homosexuality and male homosexuals. We would like to learn about your own attitudes. Indicate how much you agree or disagree with each statement using the following scale:

A	B	C	D	E
Strongly Agree	Moderately Agree	Neither Agree Nor Disagree	Moderately Disagree	Strongly Disagree

For each statement, choose the one letter from the box above that best represents your own view, and blacken the corresponding circle on the answer sheet. Blacken only one choice for each statement. Make sure you read every word of each statement.

Make sure that the number of the statement or question you are answering corresponds to the number on your answer sheet. BEGIN WITH RESPONSE FIELD 3 ON YOUR ANSWER SHEET.

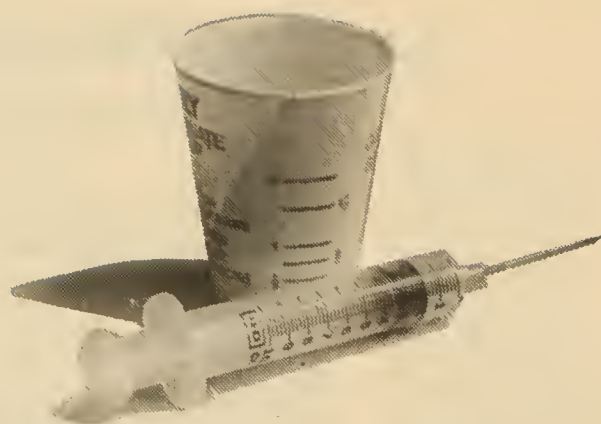
- Male homosexuals should be allowed to organize groups for social and recreational purposes.
- Male homosexuality is immoral.
- Male homosexuals need psychological treatment.
- Male homosexuals should be accepted into our society.
- Male homosexuals should be allowed to dance with each other in public places.
- I believe that male homosexuals should be confined and not released until cured.
- Male homosexuality should be a criminal offense.
- Male homosexuals are generally more feminine than male heterosexuals.
- I can hardly imagine myself having a close friendship with a male homosexual.

-7-

A	B	C	D	E
Strongly Agree	Moderately Agree	Neither Agree Nor Disagree	Moderately Disagree	Strongly Disagree

- I would not wish for male homosexuals to live near me.
- There is nothing immoral about a loving, respectful, male homosexual relationship.
- Male homosexuality should not be condemned.
- Male homosexuality should be erased for the good of society.
- Male homosexuality is a sickness.
- Homosexual behaviour between men is just plain wrong.
- Male homosexuals should be given social equality.
- It is often easy to identify a male homosexual by his appearance and mannerisms.
- If a male homosexual approached me in public, I would be disgusted.
- You can often tell a male homosexual by the clothes he wears.
- Male homosexuals should stay in the closet and not flaunt their deviance.
- Male homosexuality is wrong under all circumstances.
- Male homosexuals should be allowed to organize in order to try to obtain the civil rights they feel they are denied.
- Male homosexuals are psychologically disturbed.
- I would enjoy the company of male homosexuals.
- Male homosexuals should seek psychiatric help in order to become adjusted to a normal sex life.
- Many male homosexuals are easy to identify because of the way they walk and talk, and so forth.
- It is a sin for two men to have sex with each other.

20. If a male homosexual approached me in public, I would be disgusted.



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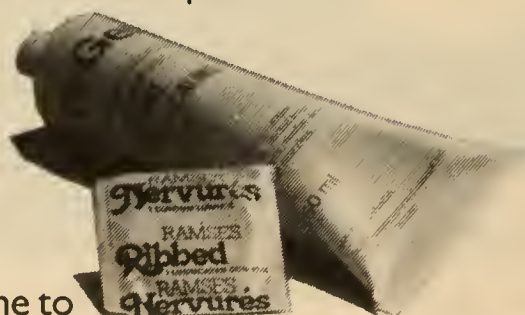
It's called a condom.

The virus that triggers AIDS is carried in cum
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But tests have shown that, used properly with
a water-soluble lubricant, a condom can stop the
virus from getting in.

The prescription? Just
read the directions and
take one before sex, with
plenty of water-soluble
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A I D S U P D A T E

You can get more information and advice about AIDS by calling the following community sources:

St John's: St John's AIDS Information Committee, c/o Wally Upward.....(709) 739-7975

Halifax: Metro Area Committee on AIDS, c/o Gayline.....(902) 423-1389

Montreal: Montreal AIDS Resource Committee/Association des ressources montréalaises sur
le SIDA.....(514) 937-7596
Comité SIDA à Montréal.....(514) 282-9888

Ottawa: AIDS Committee of Ottawa.....(613) 563-4818

Kingston: Kingston AIDS Project.....(613) 549-1232

Toronto: AIDS Committee of Toronto.....(416) 926-1626
AIDS Information Line, for a recorded message.....(416) 924-5200

Hamilton: AIDS Committee of Hamilton.....(416) 523-7055

Kitchener/Waterloo: AIDS Committee of Cambridge-Kitchener-Waterloo and Area,
c/o Bill Allen.....(519) 749-0977

London: AIDS Committee of London, c/o Richard Hudler.....(519) 663-2069

Windsor: AIDS Committee of Windsor.....(519) 256-4244

Thunder Bay: AIDS Committee of Thunder Bay.....(807) 345-8011

Winnipeg: WGCHC AIDS Committee.....(204) 774-4846

Regina: AIDS Regina.....(306) 522-4522

Edmonton: Edmonton AIDS Network.....(403) 424-4767
AIDS Phone Line.....(403) 429-2437

Calgary: AIDS Calgary.....(403) 262-6446

Vancouver: AIDS Vancouver.....(604) 687-2437

Victoria: AIDS Vancouver Island.....(604) 384-4554

AIDSSPEAK

HIV: Human Immunodeficiency Virus, the organism believed to cause AIDS, perhaps in concert with other as yet unknown factors. Formerly called LAV, ARV and HTLV-III. The virus is detectable only by very expensive laboratory procedures which are performed only when there is strong evidence that a patient may have AIDS.

HIV antibodies: Substances produced by the body in reaction to invasion by HIV. The presence of these antibodies in blood indicates that HIV has entered the blood, but does not reveal whether the virus is still present or active.

ELISA: Enzyme-Linked Immuno-Sorbent Assay, a chemical test designed to detect HIV antibodies. Because it is cheap, ELISA is used to screen blood supplies, although its hypersensitivity often causes it to detect antibodies where there are none, entailing the destruction of uncontaminated, along with contaminated, blood.

Western Blot Assay: The standard test for detecting HIV antibodies. Accurate, but too expensive to weed out false, positive ELISA results. •

NUMBERS

As of September 8, the Laboratory Centre for Disease Control (LCDC) in Ottawa had recorded a total of 677 adult cases and 17 pediatric cases of Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (AIDS) in Canada. This compares with a total of 647 adult cases this past August 5 and a total of 284 cases one year ago.

LCDC figures may lag behind provincial statistics because of delays in diagnosis and reporting.

The current Canadian adult total of 677 cases breaks down as follows:

	Total	Gay or bisexual	
		Cases	Living
Canada	677	566	277
ON	270	254	123
QC	212	130	58
BC	143	135	70
AB	28	26	9
MB	8	8	7
NS	9	8	6
SK	4	4	3
NB	3	1	1

No cases are reported in Newfoundland, Prince Edward Island or the Territories.

**The most important
way gay men can slow
the spread of AIDS is
to use a condom
when assfucking**



photo: David Blair

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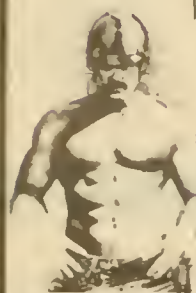
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GAY GAMES

Games highlight ability

Olympics or not, pride is what counts at gay athletic competition

SAN FRANCISCO — 3,482 athletes from 16 countries and 38 American states participated in the Second Gay Games here from August 9 through 17.

More than 15,000 people packed Kezar Stadium to watch the opening ceremonies which included an introduction by writer Rita Mae Brown, music by The Lesbian and Gay Band of America — which merged over a dozen bands from across the states, performances by the Golden Gay Precision Dancers and the parade of athletes. The Games's torch was brought into the stadium by a gay senior in a wheelchair and was carried to the plinth by Rikki Streicher, another senior known for her work in the lesbian community.

The games themselves included competitions in 17 sports and three weeks of cultural activities and had a budget of close to one million dollars. All the ceremonies and competitions were videotaped and highlights were shown in local gay and lesbian bars during the evenings.

Organizers of the event, originally called the Gay Olympics, are presently fighting an injunction which grants exclusive use of the word "Olympics" to the US Olympic Committee. The

most recent appeal of that injunction was defeated May 22 in the Supreme Court, but a strong dissenting opinion by Judge Alex Kozinski has encouraged the games organizing committee to continue its fight.

While many of the speakers at the opening and closing ceremonies lauded the Games as an important cultural event and a statement of gay pride, founder Tom Waddell explained that the Games had an even broader purpose. "The value of these games goes beyond validating culture. The Gay Games were conceived as a new idea in the meaning of sport, based on inclusion rather than exclusion." Organizers pointed out that there is no minimum level of ability required to participate in the 17 sports. The philosophy of the games is that winning is defined as achieving one's personal best.

In his concluding statements at the closing ceremonies, author Armistead Maupin returned to the theme of gay pride. "The operative word here is 'gay' not 'olympics,'" he said. "The operative purpose is honesty, not athleticism. A gold medal here doesn't mean a frigging thing if you have to keep it out of sight when you get home." ●



Waving the flag: Members of the Canadian team (above) parade through Kezar Stadium at the opening ceremonies.



Making a splash: Toronto diver Michael Simmons (left) took gold medals in his age group (41-45) for both the one-metre and three-metre competitions.

photo: Gregory A Wright

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Global pink quake

Diana van Oort and Olav D Wendelborg report from Oslo on this summer's third international gathering of the lesbian and gay youth movement

Once upon a time there was a gathering between young gays and lesbians who wished to fight against all institutions and structural rules which put obstacles in their way. Later on, a Pink Youthquake gave them their own institutions and structure. Paradise was closer than we knew....

Pink Youthquake, the third international lesbian and gay youth conference, was a smashing success. Held in Oslo during the first week of August, it brought together delegates from 14 countries, including Japan, Hong-Kong, and Australia for a week of serious discussion and fun. It was a great experience meeting other lesbian and gay youth from around the world and developing life-long friendships.

The "tradition" of international lesbian and gay youth gatherings began in Amsterdam with the 1984 summer conference, Friendships and Desires. This conference was organized by National Gay/Lesbian Youth Platform (LHJO) in Amsterdam as an outgrowth of the successful 1982 'boys' festival.

The Friendship and Desires conference was a totally new experience for the international lesbian and gay youth movement. For the first time young people got together by themselves and discussed matters of importance to themselves.

The Oslo conference continued the tradition of the Amsterdam, and 1985 Dublin, congresses. We discussed age of consent and the abolition of all arbitrary age of consent laws, coming out, prostitution, pornography, and the lack of positive discussion of homosexuality in schools. We realized that we had to come together as lesbian and gay youth because of our special position in society. Many youths are dependent upon their parents and others in positions of authority over them, and most live at home and are unable to financially support themselves. While this might appear to sound simple, in fact it is the cause of many problems. There is the risk of being thrown out of school or of one's home if one is open about being lesbian or gay. Some of us also have problems with feeling at home in the adult lesbian and gay subculture.

The conference was financially supported by the European Youth Foundation, which is based in Strasbourg and funded by the Council of Europe. The provision of travel subsidies made attendance at the conference possible for many who otherwise would not have been able to attend.

During the last days of the conference, plenaries were long sessions where issues of importance for the future of international lesbian and gay youth cooperation were discussed. The result was quite positive with the formation of the International Gay and Lesbian Youth Organization (IGLYO). It will be located in Oslo until 1988. Elected to the secretariat were: Vibeke Lingas



photo: Diana van Oort

Positive results: August's Pink Youthquake conference resulted in the formation of the International Gay and Lesbian Youth Organization

(Norway), Neal Cavalier-Smith (United Kingdom), Gerard Spruyt (Netherlands), Gunter Lang (Austria), Gary Henshaw (Ireland), and Geir Arveng (non-voting, Norway). IGLYO will continue the work of the International Gay Youth Information Pool in collecting the addresses of lesbian and gay youth groups around the world

and keeping up contacts with national and international youth organizations.

Information on IGLYO, and next summer's international conference, may be had by writing to International Gay and Lesbian Youth Organization, Ungdomsgruppa, DNF-48, Box 1305-Vika, N-0112 Oslo 1, Norway. ●

Diana van Oort is a photographer who studies psychology at the University of Utrecht in the Netherlands, and is currently working on a project studying sexual violence against women.

Olav D Wendelborg is a journalist who studies political science at the University of Bergen in Norway, and is currently touring around Europe.

South Africa woos Christians

While controversy over SA lesbian and gay organizations in ILGA continues to brew

According to the Montrose Voice, the South African government has begun a campaign to swing US public opinion in favour of the apartheid government by "airlifting" conservative fundamentalist leaders and their congregations into the country.

The idea of the airlift began with Reverend Jerry Falwell's trip last winter. In February, the South African Tourism Board set up a booth at the annual convention of the National Religious Broadcasters (NRB). Many of the flights to South Africa are free of charge, paid out of the public-relations funds of the government-owned South African Airlines.

In May, NRB Executive Director Ben Armstrong, Executive Committee Member Tom Wallace and two other broadcasters spent two weeks touring the country. On his return, Wallace devoted several afternoon talk shows to attacking mainstream media "distortions" of the South African situation. Ben Kinchlow, co-host of Pat Robertson's 700 Club, also spent two weeks there in March, and another broadcaster, David Weber, returned from his two-week trip with an

eight-part series entitled "The Truth About South Africa" which was broadcast on more than one hundred US Christian radio stations. Weber says he supports Pretoria's refusal to allow blacks to vote.

While gay activists hoped that Falwell's statements in support of the racist apartheid regime would help isolate the homophobic evangelist, it is now feared that the Christian right may be preparing a major campaign in support of the white supremacist government.

Meanwhile, in South Africa, articles in the gay newspaper Exit have angered friends and supporters of imprisoned gay anti-apartheid activist Simon Nkodi. The July/August issue of Exit credits Kevin Botha, representative of the Gay Association of South Africa (GASA) with saving the organization from expulsion from the International Lesbian and Gay Association (ILGA) in Copenhagen this summer. GASA's membership had been challenged because of its failure to defend or support Nkodi after his arrest.

The Exit articles make no mention of a plea by Nkodi himself that GASA not be expelled from

the organization on his account. One paragraph states, "Botha cautioned the ILGA about aligning itself automatically with support for Simon Nkodi. Amongst other charges, five of murder put the case in a different category."

"The paragraph is outrageous," said Roy Shepherd of Johannesburg. "It paints Simon in a totally negative light. Five people, councillors, were killed in the Vaal uprising which sprang out of widespread anger at the corruption in the local council. The state has charged the 22 accused collectively with, among some 11 charges, five counts of murder. To say this, is to imply that Simon actually killed somebody and to take the side of the state."

In the same issue of Exit, GASA announced a new media campaign featuring the symbol of black and white hands clasped together in unity.

GASA's floundering on the Nkodi case, and its inability to integrate black members, is leading to the rapid growth of the Rand Gay Organization

(RGO). The RGO, an officially mixed but largely black organization, has grown rapidly in the few months of its existence to close to three hundred members in four cities.

RGO spokesman Alfred Machela was originally to have attended the International Lesbian and Gay Association Conference, along with GASA representative Kevin Botha, but fears that the presence of the RGO might contribute to GASA's expulsion lead to a last-minute withdrawal of funds by sponsors.

Machela denies RGO had intended to attack GASA at the international conference. He admits that many RGO members have left GASA because they were dissatisfied with the white-dominated group, but claims that the RGO is willing to cooperate with GASA on projects of mutual interest in the future. ●

DC law withstands right wing opponents

WASHINGTON, DC — Efforts of the New Right and fundamentalists have failed to have Congress overturn the District of Columbia's recently enacted law prohibiting insurance companies from discriminating against persons who are HIV-antibody positive.

The law, which is the strictest of its kind in the US, prohibits health, life, and disability insurers from using the results of an HIV-antibody test, or any other tests for "the probable causative agent" of AIDS, as the basis for denying a person insurance coverage.

In 1981, the DC government passed the Sexual Assault Reform Bill which decriminalized sodomy. But anti-gay Congressmen quickly overturned the legislation, as is possible under DC's limited form of home rule which allows for a Congressional review within 30 days. Anti-gay forces were less successful this time, as lesbian and gay rights organizations quickly mobilized a lobbying campaign which was well-received on Capitol Hill. ●

US group calls for national protest

NEW YORK — A call has been issued for a march on Washington, DC in 1987 by a New York City group calling itself the March on Washington Committee, Inc.

The group was moved to action by the recent US Supreme Court decision on sodomy, and the inspirational dissenting words of Justice Harry Blackmun: "Depriving individuals of the right to choose for themselves how to conduct their intimate relationships poses a far greater threat to the values most deeply rooted in our nation's history than tolerance of nonconformity could ever do."

A planning meeting to coordinate the march is scheduled for November 14-16 in New York. Organizers hope to involve as many lesbian and gay organizations as possible.

For further information contact the March on Washington Committee, Inc, Box 1876, Old Chelsea Stn, New York, NY 10011. ●

Virus may be AIDS co-factor

Prospects for a possible vaccine are slight due to time needed to prove test results

Doctor Shyh-Ching Lo, working at the US Armed Forces Institute of Pathology, claims to have discovered a previously-unknown virus in the blood of people with AIDS. Lo said he suspects that the new virus plays an important role in AIDS, beyond being the cause of an opportunistic infection.

Other researchers greeted Lo's discovery with caution and warned that the work must be replicated by other researchers before any conclusions can be drawn. But the two-virus theory for AIDS is supported by recent discoveries that suggest a secondary virus may be involved in Hepatitis B cases where often-fatal liver infections develop. The micro-organism detected by Lo is relatively large for a virus. The New York Native, which for years has been pressing for investigation of a possible link between AIDS and African Swine Fever, has suggested that the new virus may in fact be Swine Fever virus.

A July 28 conference on the development of an AIDS vaccine, organized by the US National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Disease, has suggested that the earliest possible date for such a vaccine, even on a trial basis, will be 1990. The term "AIDS vaccine" was used by the scientists to mean a vaccine against Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV, formerly known as HTLV-III). A major obstacle to the development of a vaccine is that HIV evolves quickly. Gerard Robey, of the National Cancer Institute (NCI), reported that a vaccine tested in animals against one strain of the virus proved useless in defending subjects against other strains. Results on possible vaccines that are currently being tested on chimpanzees are expected by the end of next year, but even if those tests are successful, it will take at least four more years for a vaccine to be available for human use.

NCI Doctor Flossie Wong-Staal reported on work with a harmless mutation of the HIV virus. The mutation was produced by removing a key piece of the virus's genes during an experiment. The mutant targets the same cells as the regular version of HIV, and may prevent infection by its deadly relative.

Doctor Mathilde Krim, co-chair of the American Foundation for AIDS Research, has called for release of AZT, a drug currently being tested on people with AIDS, for "compassionate" use. AZT — seen by many scientists as the most promising weapon against AIDS on the horizon — has been in phase-two testing for the last three months. Although results of tests on the drug's impact on AIDS are expected in October, it may take years before AZT is marketed. Krim says the US government should sponsor the production of AZT since the company which presently owns rights to the drug is being overwhelmed by the cost of large-scale testing.

In San Francisco, the AIDS vigil is preparing to celebrate its first anniversary October 27. The vigil is made up of people with AIDS or AIDS-Related Complex (ARC) who have camped out in tents in San Francisco's United Nations Plaza and spend their days chained to the doors of the city's old Federal Building. The vigil demands that the federal government commit \$500 million a year to finding a cure for AIDS, for proper funding for care and support of people with ARC and for the release of medicines and treatments

for ARC and AIDS which are available in other countries but still illegal in the US.

While health officials in New Jersey are ready to give sterilized hypodermic needles to drug addicts in an attempt to cut the spread of AIDS, the San Francisco Director of Public Health has refused to consider the idea. Mayor Diane Feinstein has declared, "It is a terrible and truly offensive idea which would put the health department in a position of aiding and abetting drug addiction." Dr John Rutledge, Deputy Health Commissioner for New Jersey, disagreed, claiming that "these people are going to shoot up anyway." Rutledge stated that the practice of distributing needles, now carried out in Amsterdam and Sydney, Australia, gives health officials "a chance to counsel them about the disease and their drug

problems." In New Jersey, drug addicts make up almost 50 percent of AIDS cases and the average time between an addict's AIDS diagnosis and her or his death is about 18 days.

Finally, New York's Gay Men's Health Crisis (GMHC) has joined with 36 international AIDS organizations to urge the erotica industry to assist in the fight against AIDS. The GMHC has sent letters to nearly 60 companies that produce erotic films and magazines encouraging them to include safe-sex practices in their material. The letter states, "We are strongly concerned about the risks facing actors, actresses, models etc working in the production of erotica, but we are confident that by joining efforts, the erotica industry will help save countless lives." ●

Victims' memorial denied

Dachau lives on in committee's rejection of pink triangle monument

MUNICH — The International Dachau Committee, the association of Dachau concentration camp survivors, has refused to allow gay groups here to place a plaque at the camp commemorating its gay victims.

The Munich Gay Association had waited almost a year for a decision on their plaque which had received the approval of Dachau Memorial Director Barbara Destel. The stone, a triangle in burgundy marble, bears the inscription "Silenced, Murdered: To the Homosexual Victims of National Socialism." Dachau contains dozens of stones commemorating the Jews, Romany (gypsies) and other ethnic groups who died there.

"This decision of the former prisoners is not only a refusal of solidarity with their homosexual fellow-sufferers, it is inspired by Nazi ideology," said Hans Danielkowitz, spokesman for the Mu-

nich gay groups. "Those who still today pass over in silence the Nazi crimes done to homosexual people, approve them after all." ●



Memorial: "Silenced, Murdered: To the Homosexual Victims of National Socialism"

Rights protection vetoed by governor

CALIFORNIA — A bill, introduced by Assemblyman Art Agnos, which would have prohibited discrimination against persons with AIDS or persons who are HIV-antibody positive was vetoed by the Governor.

The legislation, as passed by the California legislature with a vote of 42 to 35 in the Assembly and 28 to 7 in the Senate, would have amended an existing law which prohibits discrimination against handicapped persons in employment, housing, and public accommodations. The legislation would have also strengthened the present law covering confidentiality of HIV-antibody test results. Governor Deukmejian claimed he was concerned about discrimination against persons with AIDS but that there was not sufficient "compelling evidence" that such discrimination existed to justify legislation.

Presently only the cities of Los Angeles, San Francisco and West Hollywood have ordinances prohibiting discrimination against persons with

AIDS.

At press time Assemblyman Agnos's office reported that he had been negotiating with the Governor and was planning to re-introduce the bill. It appears that the Governor didn't expect the strong negative response that his veto received and is reconsidering his decision. ●

British bookshop challenges customs

LONDON — Gay's the Word bookshop intends to step up its battle against customs censorship by re-importing six titles which British Customs and Excise have officially declared obscene.

Criminal charges of importing obscene material, against the bookshop and its nine directors, were dropped early this summer and Customs returned all but 19 of the 142 titles it had seized from the store in an April 1984 raid. The six titles that the bookshop intends to import were among the 19 which Customs sent back to Giovanni's Room, the Philadelphia bookstore which sup-

plied Gay's the Word. The titles include Men Loving Men by Mitch Walker, Men Loving Themselves by Jack Morin, an art catalogue called Men In Erotic Art and three novels by Phil Andros.

The new order of books will come from Amsterdam. A recent ruling by the European Court declared that British Customs has no right to ban material from other EEC countries if the same material can be legally produced and sold within the UK. If the books are seized, Gay's the Word intends to take Customs to court. The bookshop has £20,000 in its defence fund and at least that much will be necessary to fight the upcoming case.

Meanwhile, Customs continues to come under fire in Parliament. MP Chris Smith has introduced a bill to loosen controls on imported books and have imported titles judged by the same test of obscenity as books published in the UK. MP Frank Dobson is demanding the government release full details of the cost incurred by the taxpayer for the aborted case against Gay's the Word and also wants to know if customs officers will be disciplined for the fiasco. ●

Cops on bikes charge pride march

MEXICO CITY — Ten people were injured July 6 when police motorcycles charged a crowd of 3,000 demonstrators celebrating lesbian and gay pride day here.

The march, organized on a few days notice by an ad hoc group, was to proceed from Chapultepec Park across the centre of the city to Alameda Park. When the demonstrators arrived at Chapultepec, they found a large security squad blocking access to the route. As the crowd swelled to several thousand, it became too large to contain and police allowed them to move off.

Motorcycle policemen first drove into the crowd as they stopped to demonstrate outside the US embassy. A few blocks later, police charged the crowd a second time and officials demanded that the marchers disperse. After a tense stand off, the demonstrators were allowed to proceed on the condition they not attempt to enter their original destination in the Alameda. A rally of 5,000 people finally took place on a nearby empty block where the Hotel Regis had stood before the September 1985 earthquake.

Although he applauded the marcher's bravery, long-time gay activist Ignacio Alvarez was pessimistic about the continuing disorganization of the Mexican gay movement. Referring to the ad hoc committee which threw together the last-minute march preparations, Alvarez said, "the organizing committee does not have any vision about how to deal with the police or with the gay crowd. They put the marchers in big danger." ●

Traitor dies of AIDS

Ethical questions raised by AIDS-related death of McCarthy-ite

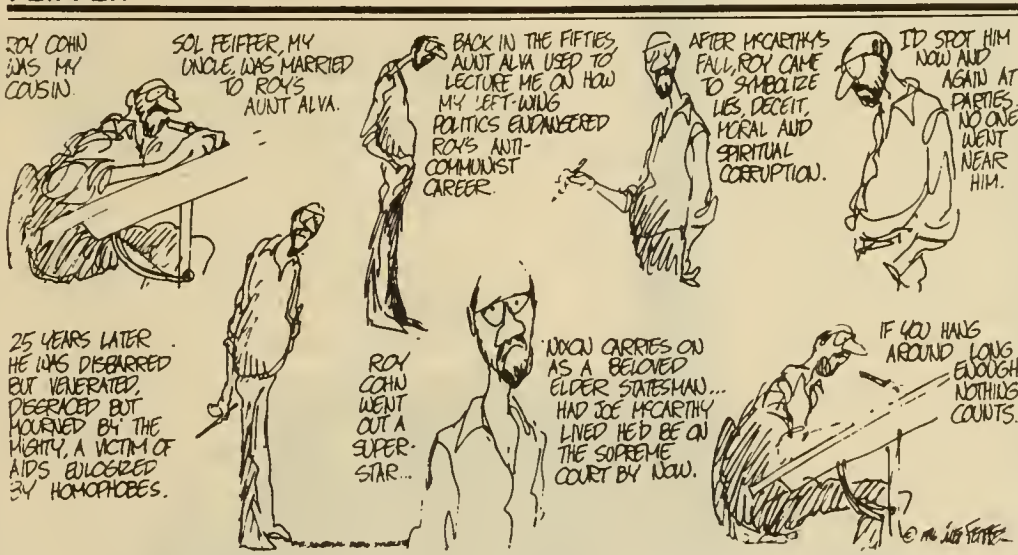
BETHESDA, MARYLAND — The flamboyant and infamous Roy Cohn died last month of complications from AIDS.

Cohn was best known for his work with Senator Joe McCarthy in the Fifties. McCarthy and Cohn blatantly used allegations of homosexuality against those who they considered by be sympathetic to communism. Less well-known to the public was Cohn's closeted, yet active, homosexual lifestyle. He denied that his illness was AIDS-related, even at the end when the doctors listed his cause of death as heart failure.

Cohn's death, and the denial of the nature of his illness and cause of death, again raised issues

around media attention to AIDS-related illnesses of public figures. The moral dilemma facing journalists is perceptively discussed in the August 18 Newsweek where Jonathan Alter and Peter McKillop argue that, "Misleading information about the cause of death, even when published out of a sincere respect for privacy, can be a disservice. Covering up the truth, by doctors or journalists, stigmatizes other sufferers — the less widely the disease is acknowledged, the less easily they can be accepted. And it shields communities and industries from understanding the full, devastating effect of AIDS." ●

FEIFFER



Community protests attacks, inaction

AUSTRALIA — Lesbians and gay men in Sydney are organizing against a wave of attacks on gay men which have led to at least two murders since June.

Witnesses say that the attacks against gay men within the Sydney "gay mile" have become "premeditated and planned." In August the Albion Street Clinic's AIDS Education and Information bus was attacked by a gang using three separate cars. The attackers were armed with iron bars and wooden clubs. Despite an instantaneous emergency call, police failed to arrive in time to stop the men from smashing up the bus and making good their escape.

At an August 16 meeting, a gay residents' group was critical of the Police-Gay Liaison Unit for its lack of action around the attacks. The Liaison Unit set up a hotline in July 1985 after the murder of another gay man, Michael Stevens. Another such hotline is now being considered.

The residents' group is considering setting up security patrols around closing time which they hope will be funded by local gay businesses. It was decided to begin an awareness campaign with leaflets and messages on bar video screens. The group is organizing a larger public meeting and a 'take back the night' march.

In other Australian news, a date for a hearing in the Alison Thorne case has been set for September 9 by the Victorian Equal Opportunities Board in Melbourne. The hearing will consider a complaint alleging political discrimination against Thorne, a lesbian teacher, by the state's Ministry of Education.

Thorne was pulled from her teaching job and

given an administrative position after she defended the civil liberties of Pedophile Support Group members who were charged, in 1983, with conspiring to corrupt public morals. She made the statements as a spokesperson for the Gay Legal Rights Coalition. Although all charges against the Pedophile Support Group's members were dismissed in 1984, the Education Minister has refused to reinstate Thorne to active teaching.

The hearing is expected to run for several days. ●

Battle raging over HIV quarantine laws

CALIFORNIA — The conflict over the LaRouche Initiative is heating up, with the opening of more anti-initiative campaign offices and with more outrageous claims from the LaRouchians.

Governor Deukmejian has refused to publicly express his opinion of Proposition 64, the measure which would have AIDS declared an infectious and contagious disease — opening up the possibility of testing and quarantining anyone suspected of having AIDS, even though Los Angeles Mayor and candidate for Governor, Tom Bradley, has spoken against the measure and accused Deukmejian of "a lack of compassion or concern for people with AIDS."

Charging that statements in it were "blatantly false," Secretary of State March Fong Eu's went to court to force changes in the wording of the pro-64 argument that was submitted for the handbook that was to be sent to voters with their sample ballots. Judge James Ford ordered the removal of three sentences:

AIDS is not hard to get; it is easy to get.

Potential insect and respiratory transmission has been established by numerous studies.

Transmission by casual contact is well established.

In his ruling, the judge stated that, "We must avoid instilling fear. There is no evidence that AIDS is transmitted by casual contact."

Opponents of Proposition 64 received another boost recently with the endorsement of a number of unions, including the California Nurses Association, and the 1.6 million-member AFL-CIO. Caesar Chavez, of the United Farm Workers, condemned the LaRouche Initiative as "a threat to the job security and the public health of every Californian."

Lyndon LaRouche himself recently spoke out on the issue, stating that the AIDS epidemic "is a conspiracy engineered by the Soviet Union and that there is no question that it can be transmitted by mosquitoes." He called medical experts, who refute his claim that AIDS is as "communicable as tuberculosis," liars. ●

Womens' protest was tribute to Godiva

PROVINCETOWN — Two women were arrested July 12 for riding horses while shirtless in a protest against the Cape Cod National Seashore regulations demanding women cover up.

Nikki Craft and Michelle Handler said they were members of the Cross Your Heart Support Network and that they had decided to do the ride as a tribute to Lady Godiva, a medieval noblewoman who rode naked through the streets of Coventry to convince her husband to repeal an unjust tax.



Craft: Handcuffed by federal park rangers

Craft has been arrested five times for going shirtless at the seashore but charges have always been dropped. She said she believes that this restriction on women will not hold up in court and is threatening to charge the federal park rangers with harassment if they refuse to follow through with their charges this time.

Craft has a history of 44 arrests arising from a range of women's and anti-nuclear activities. ●

World news credits

World News was compiled by Tim McCaskell and Charles Phillips from the following sources: Washington Blade (Washington DC), TWS (Miami) Gay Community News (Boston), Bay Area Reporter (San Francisco), New York Native (New York), Gay Times (London), The Advocate (Los Angeles), Montrose Voice (Houston), Philadelphia Gay News (Philadelphia), GIC Voice (Minneapolis), Equal Time (St Paul), News From GMHC (New York), Ken Lovett (Sydney) ●

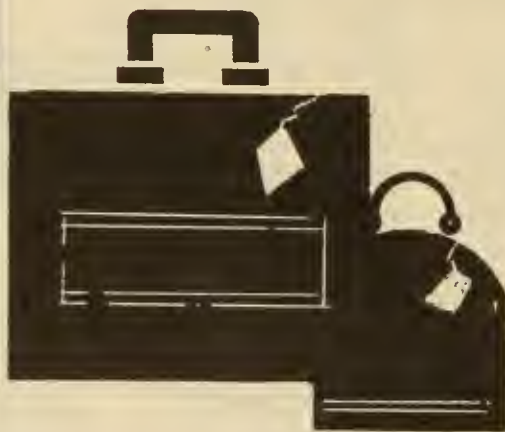


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Outrage continues

Will Justice Powell change his mind again in Hardwick sodomy decision?

Organized and unorganized protest against the US Supreme Court's decision upholding the constitutionality of Georgia's sodomy statute continues to build momentum.

It appears the Court didn't anticipate the depth and intensity of the negative response to the decision. Even homophobic William F Buckley, Jr, who apparently has withdrawn his ludicrous call for tattooing of persons with AIDS since the death of his dear friend Roy Cohn, has called for the repeal of "those smelly laws."

Mass public protests are expected in New York City and Washington DC October 6 when the Court returns from its summer holiday. And the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation, based in NYC, has been organizing a letter-writing campaign to Justice Powell. It seems that Powell originally voted to overturn the statute but then changed his mind. The Washington Post reported July 13 that although Powell was personally opposed to sodomy statutes, he felt that as long as they were not actively enforced, repeal should be left up to the state legislatures. Apparently Powell would have voted to strike down the statute as "cruel and unusual punishment" if there had been a conviction. What he failed to recognize was that even without "trial and conviction" for sodomy, the law is enforced everyday against gay men, even if there are no "convictions."

Professor Tribe, counsel to Hardwick, has filed a petition for rehearing. Although the Court seldom grants such petitions, it is hoped that the public response might influence Powell to change his mind again.

Next month in TBP: an interview with Michael Hardwick, and his arresting officer Keith Torrick.

Charles Phillips

Michael J Bowers, Attorney General of Georgia, versus Michael Hardwick

The following is an edited version of the opinion of the Court. Citations to cases and footnotes have been omitted. Copies of the entire decision are available from the Canadian Gay Archives, Box 639, Stn A, Toronto, ON M5W 1G2.

JUSTICE WHITE delivered the opinion of the Court.

In August 1982, Michael Hardwick was charged with violating the Georgia statute criminalizing sodomy by committing that act with another adult male in the bedroom of respondent's home.

This case does not require a judgment on whether laws against sodomy between consenting adults in general, or between homosexuals in particular, are wise or desirable. It raises no question about the right or propriety of state legislative decisions to repeal their laws that criminalize homosexual sodomy, or of state court decisions invalidating those laws on state constitutional grounds. The issue presented is whether the Federal Constitution confers a fundamental right upon homosexuals to engage in sodomy and hence invalidates the laws of the many States that still make such conduct illegal and have done so for a very long time. The case also calls for some judgment about the limits of the Court's role in carrying out its constitutional mandate.

Proscriptions against homosexual sodomy have ancient roots. Sodomy was a criminal of-

fense at common law and was forbidden by the laws of the original 13 states. In fact, until 1961, all 50 States outlawed sodomy, and today, 24 states continue to provide criminal penalties for sodomy performed in private and between consenting adults. Against this background, to claim that a right to engage in such conduct is "deeply rooted in this Nation's history and tradition" or "implicit in the concept of ordered liberty" is, at best, facetious.

Nor are we inclined to take a more expansive view of our authority to discover new fundamental rights. There should be great resistance to expand the substantive reach of the Due Process Clause, particularly if it requires redefining the category or rights deemed to be fundamental. Otherwise, the Judiciary necessarily takes to itself further authority to govern the country without express constitutional authority.

The law is constantly based on notions of morality, and if all laws representing essentially moral choices are to be invalidated under the Due Process Clause, the courts will be very busy indeed. Hardwick insists that majority sentiments about the morality of homosexuality should be declared inadequate. We do not agree, and are unpersuaded that the sodomy laws of some 25 States should be invalidated on this basis.

CHIEF JUSTICE BURGER, concurring.

There is no such thing as a fundamental right to commit homosexual sodomy. Decisions of individuals relating to homosexual conduct have been subject to state intervention throughout the history of Western Civilization. Condemnation of those practices is firmly rooted in Judaeo-Christian moral and ethical standards. Homosexual sodomy was a capital crime under Roman law. Blackstone described "the infamous crime against nature" as an offense of "deeper malignity" than rape, an heinous act "the very nature of which is a disgrace to human nature," and "a crime not fit to be named." To hold that the act of homosexual sodomy is somehow protected as a fundamental right would be to cast aside millennia of moral teaching.

JUSTICE POWELL, concurring.

I agree with the Court that there is no fundamental right — ie no substantive right under the Due Process Clause — such as that claimed by Hardwick. This is not to suggest, however, that he may not be protected by the Eighth Amendment of the Constitution [prohibiting cruel and unusual punishment]. In my view a prison sentence for such conduct would create a serious Eighth Amendment issue.

JUSTICE BLACKMUN, with whom JUSTICE BRENNAN, JUSTICE MARSHALL, and JUSTICE STEVENS join, dissenting.

This case is no more about "a fundamental right to engage in homosexual sodomy," as the Court purports to declare than *Stanley vs Georgia* was about a fundamental right to watch obscene movies, or *Katz vs United States* was about a fundamental right to place interstate bets from a telephone. Rather this case is about "the most comprehensive of rights and the right most valued by civilized men," namely, "the right to be left alone."

Like Justice Holmes, I believe that "it is revolting to have no better reason for a rule of law than that it was laid down in the time of Henry IV.

It is still more revolting if the grounds upon which it was laid down have vanished long since, and the rule simply persists from blind imitation of the past." I believe we must analyze Hardwick's claim in the light of the values that underlie the constitutional right to privacy. If that right means anything, it means that, before Georgia can prosecute its citizens for making choices about the most intimate aspects of their lives, it must do more than assert that the choice they have made is an "abominable crime not fit to be named among Christians."

Our cases long have recognized that the Constitution embodies a promise that a certain private sphere of individual liberty will be kept largely beyond the reach of government. We protect the rights of married couples not because they contribute to the general public welfare, but because they form so central a part of an individual's life. "The concept of privacy embodies the 'moral fact that a person belongs to himself and not others nor to society as a whole.'" And so we protect the decision whether to marry precisely because marriage "is an association that promotes a way of life." We protect the decision whether to have a child because parenthood alters so dramatically an individual's self-definition, not because of demographic considerations or the Bible's command to be fruitful and multiply. And we protect the family because it contributes so powerfully to the happiness of individuals, not because of a preference for stereotypical households. The "ability independently to define one's identity that is central to any concept of liberty" cannot truly be exercised in a vacuum; we all depend on the "emotional enrichment of close ties with others."

Only the most willful blindness could obscure the fact that sexual intimacy is "a sensitive, key relationship of human existence, central to family life, community welfare, and the development of human personality." The fact that individuals define themselves in a significant way through their intimate sexual relationships with others suggests, in a Nation as diverse as ours, that there may be many "right" ways of conducting those relationships, and that much of the richness of a relationship will come from the freedom an individual has to *choose* the form and nature of these intensely personal bonds.

I can only hope that the Court will soon reconsider its analysis and conclude that depriving individuals of the right to choose for themselves how to conduct their intimate relationships poses a far greater threat to the values most deeply rooted in our Nation's history than tolerance of nonconformity could ever do. Because I think the Court today betrays those values, I dissent.

JUSTICE STEVENS, with whom JUSTICE BRENNAN and JUSTICE MARSHALL join, dissenting.

I believe that a proper analysis of the statute's constitutionality requires consideration of two questions. First, may a State totally prohibit the described conduct by means of a neutral law applying without exception to all persons subject to its jurisdiction? If not, may the state save the statute by announcing that it will only enforce the law against homosexuals? The two questions merit separate discussion.

Our prior cases make two propositions abundantly clear. First, the fact that the governing majority in a State has traditionally viewed a particular practice as immoral is not a sufficient reason for upholding a law prohibiting the practice; neither history nor tradition could save a law prohibiting miscegenation [inter-racial marriage]

"Depriving individuals of the right to choose for themselves how to conduct their intimate relationships poses a far greater threat than ... tolerance of nonconformity"

from constitutional attack. Second, individual decisions by married persons, concerning the intimacies of their physical relationship, even when not intended to produce offspring, are a form of "liberty" protected by the Due Process Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment. Moreover, this protection extends to intimate choices by unmarried as well as married persons.

In consideration of claims of this kind, the Court has emphasized the individual interest in privacy, but its decisions have actually been animated by an even more fundamental concern. As I wrote some years ago:

The character of the Court's language in these cases brings to mind the origins of the American heritage of freedom — the abiding interest in individual liberty that makes certain state intrusions on the citizen's right to decide how he will live his own life intolerable. Guided by history, our tradition of respect for the dignity of individual choice in matters of conscience and the restraints implicit in the federal system, federal judges have accepted the responsibility for recognition and protection of these rights in appropriate cases.

It is perfectly clear that the State of Georgia may not totally prohibit the conduct proscribed by the challenged statute.

If the Georgia statute cannot be enforced as it is written the State must assume the burden of justifying a selective application of its law. Either the persons to whom Georgia seeks to apply its statute do not have the same interest in "liberty" that others have, or there must be reasons why the State may be permitted to apply a generally applicable law to certain persons that it does not apply to others.

The first possibility is plainly unacceptable. Although the meaning of the principle that "all men are created equal" is not always clear, it surely must mean that every free citizen has the same interest in "liberty" that the members of the majority share. From the standpoint of the individual, the homosexual and the heterosexual have the same interest in deciding how he will live his own life, and, more narrowly, how he will conduct himself in his personal and voluntary associations with his companions. State intrusions into the private conduct of either is equally burdensome.

The second possibility is similarly unacceptable. A policy of selective application must be supported by a neutral and legitimate interest — something more substantial than a habitual dislike of, or ignorance about, the disfavored group. Neither the State nor the Court has identified any such interest in this case.

I respectfully dissent. •

HEAT OF MANAGUA

Alan O'Connor discovers that, in Nicaragua, new schools seem to make more sense than new gay bars. A visitor's view of the next country on America's hit list.

The wet season is late arriving and Managua is soaked in sweat and dust. Street vendors sell shaved ice in plastic bags from wooden carts. At every corner you buy a gaseosa with ice, which is poured into a plastic bag because bottles are valuable, bite a tiny hole and reflect that you never felt so glad of sugar and carbonated water. There has been no beer in the city for two days. It'll be back tomorrow. In the meantime, people have



Monument to the struggle:

The inscription on the base of the statue (right) reads, "Only the workers and the peasants will fight to the finish."

City of contrasts: Slum neighbourhoods (far right top) and middle-class homes go cheek by jowl in Managua.



photos this page: Alan O'Connor

photos this page: Margaret Randall



Government support: Culture minister Ernesto Cardenal (left) has protested Cuba's treatment of gays, while minister of the interior Tomás Borge "has tried to be supportive of lesbians and gays in his own department."

been getting patriotically drunk on cheap Nicaraguan rum. You sit in a wooden rocking chair and sweat. In front of you, in a dusty yard, a cock grasps one of his hens by the back of the neck and fucks her. He takes half a minute and then wanders off. Some bored children watch.

This is a tough city. It doesn't make much sense to generalize about 900,000 people, but a first impression is that people are tremendously *serious* and very independent. We manage to break through the solemnity and raise a friendly giggle when we try to buy five cents worth of limes. The street vendor offers a small handful and gives us a roguish smile.

Managua needs to be tough. The city was hard hit by an earthquake in 1972. Because international aid was pocketed by the ruling Somoza family (in control of the country from 1933 to 1979), the downtown area is still in ruins. In the final stages of the revolution in 1979, Managua's factories were bombed by Somoza's air force in revenge for the factory owners' opposition to his regime. Today at almost every corner of the city there are monuments to people who were killed fighting with Somoza's soldiers.

It is a city of contrasts. There are low elegant houses in the embassy district. In some poorer barrios or neighbourhoods, whole families live in the equivalent of a wooden North American one-car garage. But everywhere we pass there are schools. Even the poorest areas have running

ine — and it does. But at least it is safe to drink.

The new government of Nicaragua (in the 1984 elections the Sandinistas won 61 seats and opposition parties 35 seats in the national assembly) has tried to keep down the prices of basic goods and to increase employment in the city. We pass by small workshops. We also notice a considerable amount of construction. We haven't ventured into a supermarket and do all of our shopping in the huge oriental market — bananas, mangoes, pineapples, limes, carrots, tomatoes, rice, beans, bread, spices. Most of the line-ups we see seem to be for fresh chicken. I'd love to buy a Nicaraguan cooking pot (rather like a wok) and one of these simple but elegant wooden rocking chairs. Cheap plastic cups, bowls and containers are popular and obviously useful for hygienic reasons.

For a lot of things you don't even have to leave your street. The paperboy carries piles of the three dailies on his head. "La Prensa, Barricada, Diario; La Prensa, Barricada, Diario," he sings. At three cents, we can afford to buy one of each. It beats listening to Spanish covers of Bruce Springsteen and Billy Joel on the radio. Story of the day: the United States-funded Contra groups have kidnapped 12 West German volunteers in the eastern province of Zelaya. Four managed to escape. In another few days the Contras will kill a group of people, including three small children, who had formed a cooperative farm.

Managua is full of troops and army trucks, but the soldiers seem casual and friendly. In fact, there is little distinction between the soldiers and civilians. Both gossip on the streets, buy a gasosa, men and women hold hands — though one necking couple sprang apart when they heard our footsteps. Most local people don't distinguish between Canadians and Americans, but there is no hostility towards us in the streets. There's a limit to being casual, though — it just isn't done to wear shorts and a T-shirt in the street. Most local people don't distinguish between Canadians and Americans, but there is no hostility towards us in the streets. We are used to the relative freedom of Toronto and look forward to the short trip we plan to the beautiful beaches on the Pacific coast.

In the *relative* cool of the evening we sit in the courtyard of our two-dollars-a-night lodgings. It is the home of an overworked woman with small children. Some of the guests plot to take her out for an evening. Between her children and her lodgers she never seems to leave the place. At the moment everyone here is American or European — from London, Toronto, New York, Italy and Germany. We suddenly realize that almost every-

one is a lesbian or gay journalist or international volunteer. The veterans of this hostel had calculated that for one evening two nights ago *everyone* staying here was gay or lesbian.

Meanwhile, back at the ranch.... Ronald Reagan was arguing hard for his \$100 million for the various groups of Contras who had done a lot of damage to Nicaragua but were clearly becoming less and less effective. It is also clear that these armed anti-Sandinista groups wouldn't exist anymore if it weren't for US backing. But we noticed something even more alarming when we got back. Reagan's rhetoric had considerably altered the way the press covered Nicaragua. One by one we've seen even fairly liberal magazines like *Dissent*, *New York Review of Books*, *New Republic*, and *Index on Censorship* publish one-sided stories based on half-truths, incomplete information, and the assumption that Nicaragua is now a repressive dictatorship. (A welcome exception is Conor Cruise O'Brien in the August issue of *The Atlantic*.)

Being gay was pretty irrelevant when we were there. When the standard of living is so low nobody thinks twice about two guys sharing a bed. Anyway it was much too hot even to *think* about sex. We had a vague idea that there was a gay tavern somewhere in Managua but that wasn't why we were there. So we never went to Hermogenes, an open-air gay bar in the barrio Santa Ana, where nobody dances because it *might* fall under the law against "scandalous behaviour." We did visit the ruins of the national palace, which we've heard is one of the few cruising spots, but we didn't notice anybody there. Perhaps it was the wrong time. We did meet a good-looking construction worker outside Managua. He was very helpful and friendly but we thought he might have been straight. Who knows....

What we really want to say is how *difficult* it is for an outsider even to begin to figure out what is happening in such a complex and rapidly changing society. It's so easy, especially if you have a deadline, to write what people want to hear — whether it's "brave little revolutionary society" or "communist dictatorship." We've read a lot about Nicaragua since we got back. Most of it has made us angry because it is so obviously repeating the Reagan line. Some of what we have read has made us think. All of it has made us ask what makes them so sure they know what's happening. It's not like you can look in the street and see freedom or repression. You look in the street and you see dust, kids, fruit-vendors and quite friendly soldiers.

The Pink Book 1985, a publication of the

International Gay Association, reports repeated acts of violence against visitors to public meeting places for gay men. It also reports that these meeting places are regularly raided by the police. One of the gay journalists in our lodgings, who has been in Managua for two months, says that as far as he can discover, these reports are accurate. The real difficulty with this kind of report is not so much its content (though it would be good to have more details), as its context. We have a fairly good idea of how our own society works (or do we?) and so we know how to interpret information that a gay person has been beaten up or harassed by the police. What about a society that is not only strange to us, but is in a process of rapid

The veterans of this hostel had calculated that for one evening two nights ago everyone staying here was gay or lesbian.

social change?

Most lesbians and gay men who have been to Nicaragua say that they didn't go to be heralds of gay liberation. They went to support the process of change in Nicaragua. As one woman said, it seemed irrelevant to ask about the situation of gay teachers when schools were being blown up by the Contras, and when the real problem is to make sure that each kid has a pencil and paper at the start of the school year. This was pretty much our own feeling.

There are no-lesbian or gay organizations in Nicaragua. Some members of the government are known to be sympathetic. Sandinista minister of culture Ernesto Cardenal has protested in Cuba against its treatment of gays. Minister of the interior Tomás Borge has said that there is a serious problem of negative public opinion. He has tried to be supportive of lesbians and gays in his own department, in part to encourage them not to become victims of blackmail.

In the years after the revolution there was a campaign to eliminate prostitution. (There was also a campaign against sexist advertising.) This undoubtedly made public cruising more difficult for gay men.

Today at almost every corner of the city there are monuments to people who were killed fighting with Somoza's soldiers.

water and electricity meters on poles, 15 feet above the ground. A local organizer insists that we come early Sunday morning to see the local polio inoculation for children. His main topic of conversation is the enormous problems facing the city. He wants us to tell people at home what we have seen. In the Somoza years children died from measles, diarrhoea, malaria, polio and other diseases. We heard some grumbling from visitors that the water in Managua tastes of chlor-

We tend to forget that our own enlightened views about sexuality are in part the result of more than a hundred years of public education for most of the population and decades of campaigning by women and men.

Nicaragua is a very Catholic country. In fact one of the main strengths of the Sandinista government is its appeal to grassroots Catholic sentiments. However, this situation is complicated by open hostility from much of the Catholic hierarchy.

As in most of Latin America there is a deep macho culture in Nicaragua (see box). In a way this can be a strength: there is a sense in which boys see military service as a challenge. These deeply rooted attitudes are, however, being challenged by women's organizations, and lesbians and gay men will undoubtedly benefit from this questioning of machismo and traditional attitudes to sexuality.

Gay liberation, when it comes in Nicaragua, is likely to be very different from that of North America. In Ireland, another very Catholic country, community centres have been much more important than the commercial scene. Nicaragua is very determined to do things her own way.

Meanwhile, that \$100 million in American "aid" will pay to have more kids killed, schools bombed, and life made more difficult and more uncertain. A return to a political regime such as existed before 1979 is unlikely to encourage civil freedoms, including those of gay and lesbian Nicaraguans. ●

Alan O'Connor is a frequent contributor to The Body Politic. He visited Managua in May 1986.

The cult of virility

Living with machismo — one woman's experience

"What does machismo mean to me? It meant hearing my father shouting and jumping for joy when my mother gave birth to her first boy after three girls. It meant seeing my brother go to private school while we girls were all sent to public school. It meant seeing my mother working so hard to make ends meet and keep the family together but knowing she had no control at all over the family finances. It meant never being able to go out after dark. It meant when I went out with somebody he would pay for everything, always, and brag about how much he spent afterwards. It meant being passed on from my father to my husband at the wedding ceremony. It meant being adored and respected once I had children, but knowing I had no legal rights over where those children would be brought up — those rested with my husband. It meant knowing that if a man applied for the job I wouldn't even get an interview.

"If you are macho you are always right. Everything you say has to be listened to and respected, no matter how stupid it is. And if it's not, then you are almost obliged to use violence to get that 'respect.' Except for anger, a man can never show his feelings. He can never cry. He must be in control. A

photo: Allyson Luany



Riutort: "Our model is the Virgin Mary"

man's role is to provide for and protect his women. And the only socially acceptable roles for women are to be either virgin or mother. Our role model is the Virgin Mary.

"Machismo is not just a psychological or emotional attitude. It has its economy. Men control everything. Traditionally in Latin

America the only way a woman can achieve political prominence is by being some important man's wife or daughter. Women are dependent. A family's property is almost never left to daughters, only sons. Because those sons preserve the family name.

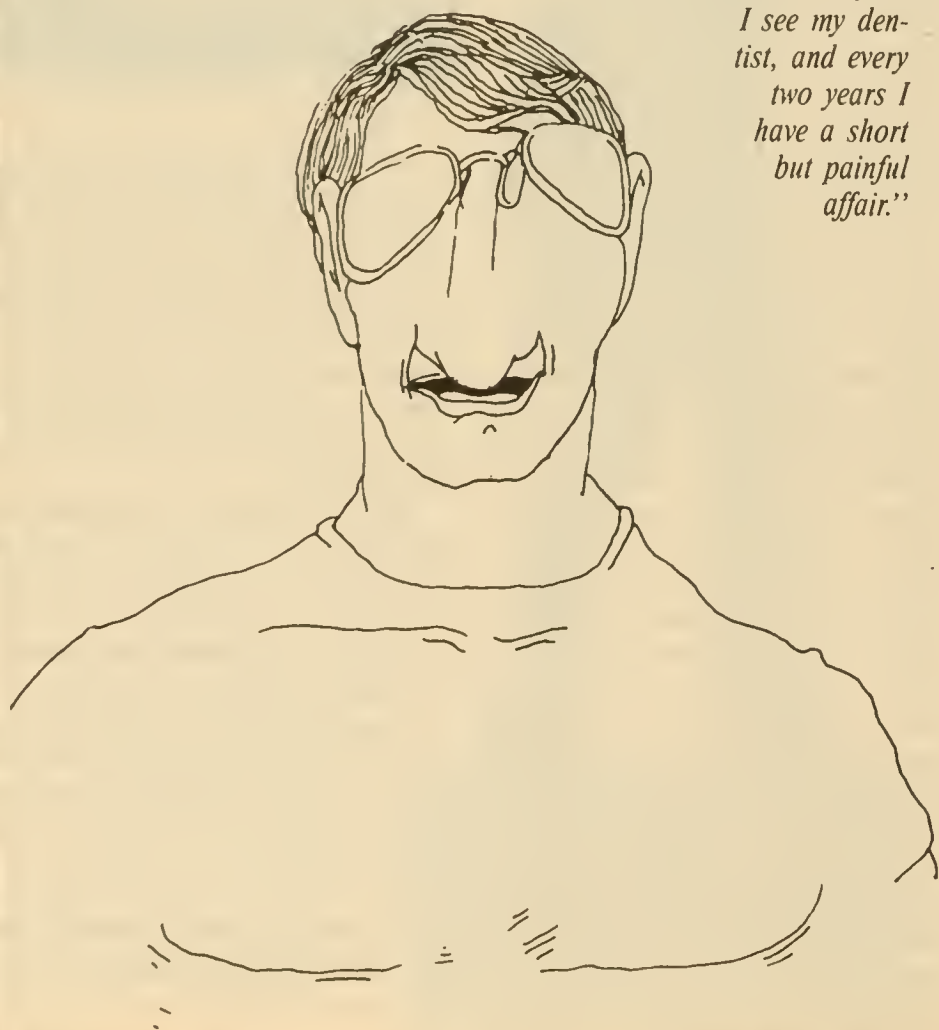
"You know you can't really blame anything that happens in Latin America on women. We have never had any real economic or political power at any level. And you can look at much of what is wrong with our countries as an outgrowth of machismo itself. Militarism is machismo's purest expression, an exclusively male body exercising raw physical power over people through violence.

"Homosexuality can't be part of it at all. The last time I was in Chile it seemed that 90 percent of the jokes ended up ridiculing homosexuals. Sex means a man owning, possessing a woman. Anything else is out of the question. Even among otherwise progressive people homosexuality is seen as some kind of strange curiosity. And to the traditionalist it's a dangerous threat to the basis of society." ●

Monica Riutort is Chilean, a long-time counselor at Toronto's Centre for Spanish Speaking Peoples and Coordinator of the YMCA's International Violence Against Women Committee.

OSTROM 1976

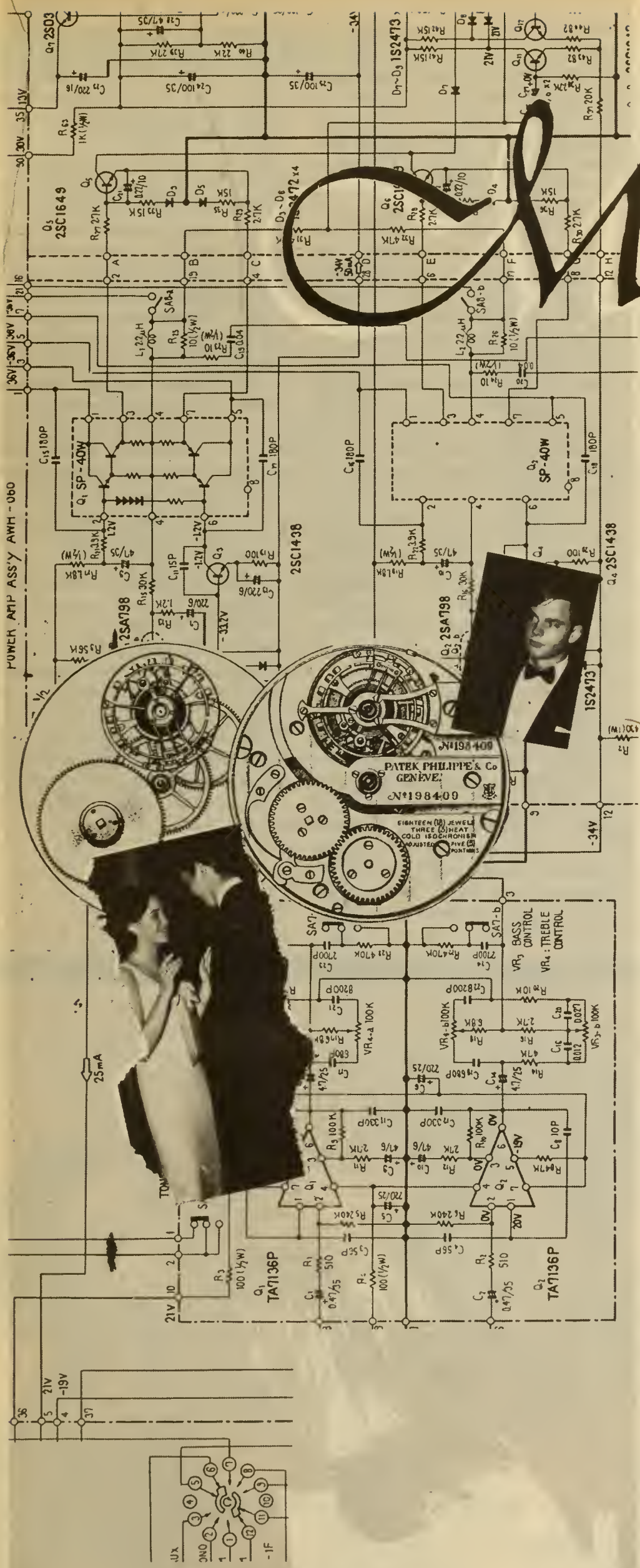
"I spend eight hours a week in a gym building up my tits, fifteen hours a week dancing and five hours a week at the movies. Twice a month I have a facial, once a month I get my hair cut. Every other month I get a VD check, twice a year I see my dentist, and every two years I have a short but painful affair."



OSTROM 1986

"Let's see... I spend 40 hours a week managing the gym, 10 hours a week in front of the VCR, and 6 hours a week entering Publisher's Clearinghouse Sweepstakes. Twice a month, I visit my Parole Officer (I was a 'found-in'), once a month I see my accountant. Every other month I shave my balls. Twice a year I get an EKG, once a year I see a dentist, and every two years I spend a month in New York at a jack-off club."





MADELEINE

by Richard Summerbell

When I got back to my home town that summer a few people-in-the-know had some news to tell me, in private of course.

"Madeleine's back in town, you know... she wants to see you."

"She's in town!?"

"Her uncle still lives over in Ashcroft, remember? — she came over to stay with him for a week. You should give her a call, Dave."

I groaned inwardly, not really because of poor Madeleine herself. It was just that some heterosexuals have such depressingly selective memories for their own significances: marriages, divorces, births, number of kids, illicit affairs. Everyone is known by such foolish things, even us. They can recite the history of these emblematic facts for all their friends, much like Talmudic authorities can recite the genealogy of King David right back to Adam. In this case, my friends were strongly implying that looking up Madeleine was my duty, an obligation imposed upon me by the nature of our relationship. Madeleine, you see, had been my high-school girl-friend.

Now, just about every gay person I've ever met had the requisite girl-friend or boy-friend sometime in high school, even if they also — lucky devils — happened to have a boy-friend or girl-friend on the side. I've always thought, though, that things were a bit different between me and Madeleine. Peer pressure alone was not really what drew us together, even though our peers *did* peer into our situation from time to time to make sure things were running smoothly. Only one person, Madeleine's friend Dawn, really had much to do with our getting to know one another. She came up to me, right in the middle of biology class, right there when my lab partner Diane was within earshot, and told me that Madeleine liked me.

"Don't look so surprised. You have a lot in common. You're both *brains* for one thing," she said, narrowing her eyes slightly as she inserted the last acupuncture needle into the appropriate nerve. Being a brain, you see, was my unspoken defence against heterosexual obligation — "only interested in science, ma'am." She had my number.

"Why don't you ask her out to the next dance?"

I had to do it, of course. It was a time in my life when I could see each little sparrow fall, so to speak, and I couldn't stand to dash the hopes of someone who was foolhardy enough to risk liking me. Besides, anyone who would up and decide to like me spontaneously, without my even trying to make an impression on them, was obviously unusual. I had a liking for unusual characters. So you see, it wasn't really heteropressure per se that made me ask her to the dance.

When I did ask her, in the broken English I reserve for such occasions, she surprised me by looking at me with radiant eyes — not swept-away-on-a-sea-of-romance radiant eyes, but the real thing. Nothing passive about them. In fact, I was the one who was awed, since I'd never seen anything like that before. Knowing I couldn't really do it justice made me feel, deep inside, a little like an author searching out events for a story. In my own mind, you see, I was a little gay universe of one person, a tourist in a heterosexual cosmos, and I always took the events of my own life with a grain of salt. But that grain of salt tasted strangely bitter in the face of genuine love, which is what Madeleine, to her own horror, felt for me right away. She knew it was much too soon.

continued from page 25

I had never been to a high-school dance before, but then, neither had she. In my case, I had had ten thousand excuses, all of them topical ("too much homework to do;" "naw, our band is having a practice;" etc). In Madeleine's case, she had simply never been asked. Nothing wrong with her, but a strange thing had happened to her. She had lived until that year in a small town in northern New Brunswick, and had by some ghastly fluke of fate become the chosen scapegoat-girl of her class, the "yuk" girl, the "oh, her" girl. Bad cooties, from first grade till eternity. Only when she moved to our town did she discover that she was an appreciable human being, and not at all just a scab to be picked off the surface of humanity. Even boys, in her view, changed overnight from a monotony of sneering creeps into individuals: curious phenomena, strangely alluring, who might or might not actually be OK. I was her test case.

So you see, the gods of high school had presented me with the sort of person I could least reject, another outsider. It was a privilege to dance with such a person, to hear her whisper out parts of her life in the dark gymnasium bleachers above the dance floor. I don't remember at all what music played when we danced, but I remember the tautness of her body, the newness of all her steps, her quizzical eyes, and my own attempts to play my role impeccably. Of course, I had to experiment and see if I would get a hard-on if we danced a slow dance together. When I did I felt pleased (with a grain of salt). Never one to be trapped in myself, I began to think that maybe I was whoever I was trying to be — thus, as I played the role, the role began to play me. I became a boy-friend.

Our relationship, which began that night, was far from idyllic. Madeleine knew how far out on a limb she'd gone with her feelings for me, and this made her despair at any hint that I might not be as deeply involved as she was. There was little I could do that would not be taken as just such a hint. "You men," she told me, "have no idea what we women feel like. You're not 'all the same' — I won't say that — but you just *don't know*." Then she would look at me defiantly. Since I had no mandate to speak on behalf of "men," who I thought of as heterosexual, I had no convincing reply to make to this. Whatever I mumbled infuriated her. Nonetheless, after storming around school for a few days smokily ignoring me, she would allow me to coax her back into conversation. Her friends, for their own part, were determined to mend any rifts in our friendship — such is the role of the confidante.

She would have no part of physical affection — no kissing on the lips, no lengthy embraces. This was not because of any Victorian convictions, but because anything resembling sex would get her more deeply involved than she could possibly stand to be. Despite my having taken on the role of boy-friend, this suited me fine. Sexually, you must understand, I was not just gay but also a pervert — my sexuality was deeply stamped with some of the predilections most people can read about only in the more controversial sorts of classified ads. All self-kidding aside, I was a long way from heterosexuality. Madeleine's reticence, however, made it quite practical for me to do what I thought was the tactful thing — that is, to exert a little pressure on her from time to time to push our physical relationship a millimetre forward. I think we even got as far as holding hands in the halls once or twice.

We went to the prom together, glitzed and feted; were photographed together and known in terms of one another; we had our times, quiet and loud. And that was that, since, as it turned

out, she was fated to go back to New Brunswick to start university in the fall. On our last night together we gave each other gifts, and stood together hidden in the basement stairwell of her parents' house, with a slight summer chill nipping into the quiet air around us. "I never thought I could ever like any boy as much as I've liked you," she said quietly, self-consciously aware that she was speaking a millennial phrase and that it had to be spoken without show. "I like you a lot too," I said. Then she kissed me, or we kissed, as slowly as the sky kissing sunset. The colours flared through her one after another. "I won't write to you," she said afterward. "There's no way things can be the same for us after I've gone. I'm sorry, but I couldn't stand to keep writing, knowing everything was changed. That's the way it has to be."

And that's the way it was, for five years. In the meantime, I moved away myself, came out, and let my memories drift towards the back of the bus. Six-week affairttes with other gay students became my *métier*, and I accepted that arrangement with the usual grain of salt. At the same time, though, I loved gay men in general, and lesbians too, and felt quite at home in the diluted Zion of the urban gay ghetto. When Madeleine returned to the home town, I was no longer the person who had played the person she liked. I was shocked that she wanted to see me. For one thing, I had heard that one of her girl-friends had written telling her that I was gay. The other thing that gave me a jolt was that I wanted to see her too. That was the funny thing.

"Yep, it's really me," she said on the phone, in a tone of jaunty irony that had always been one of her characteristic marks. "So how are you?"

I was perplexed — I didn't say so, but I admitted it to myself as the telephone conversation progressed towards a plan to meet somewhere. Did she know about me? If not, did she want to take up where she left off? Not likely, but then, what

did she want? Was she now so detached that she could admit to pure curiosity about an old "flame"? Or did she want answers about how a gay man, now revealed as such, could have led her on so deeply into her heart? I wavered on the edge of feeling guilty; and then, from time to time I had the curiously glassy feeling a person gets when he senses he may simply be an object of nostalgia. All this had to be resolved.

We ended up walking together by the river that divides my home town. It is a dangerous river, full of snags and dappled with little whirlpools that form momentarily and then fade into feigned innocence again. Its banks are lined with tall cottonwoods, almost in single file. Our conversation had a little of the orderliness of those cottonwoods in it, but it also had a few quiet whirlpools, and a few shadowy sudden snags just below the surface. Our lives were, indeed, going by swiftly. We talked universities, and what are you doing now, and do you still know Rick, and so on; and I couldn't tell whether gayness, that ghost, was absent or was simply not being referred to. Madeleine seemed a bit on edge, and the irony in her conversation was subtle but omnipresent. Perhaps she was actually waiting to see if I would introduce candour into the conversation by admitting the truth. I couldn't tell. I decided it was her move, and we talked on about so-and-so and such-and-such.

When we turned back to head for the car, I decided that I knew a short cut between two points along the riverbank — trust me to trust my own navigation. It turned out to be a dead end — how embarrassing — and Madeleine was not amused. She joked at me with her ironic humour — "Well! I thought you knew your way around here" — but I thought I saw a little vortex of true annoyance form momentarily and then submerge again. It was too bad, I thought, because the little dead-end path we were on was in a beautiful, restless glade of riverside cottonwoods and

maples, and the evening was steel blue and comfortable. Perhaps we could have enjoyed it — but no. "Oops, sorry," I said, or something equally germane. But I caught myself murmuring under my breath, "anyways, who am I to know my way around here?"

So you see, Madeleine, that's really how it ended — there was no more to it than that. We never did bring up the subject of whether or not I was gay, and perhaps you didn't know, but I think you did. There was that trace of annoyance, just under the surface — how else do I explain it? Still, I was perfectly sincere when I agreed to write to you — I didn't think you wanted to go back to boy-friend/girl-friend, and I thought we could be excellent friends as long as you could stand my eventual coming-out. Or could stand to wait until I came out, if you already knew everything and were waiting for an end to duplicity. Now it's been another five years and you still haven't heard from me. Perhaps that broken promise makes me as callous as all the other boys, a sneering creep after all, or just a coward — in any case, a confirmation of your miserable childhood. Perhaps you've written off men altogether because of me — how am I to know? But the same sun shines on both of us, and it plays the same games on the leaves of the trees around us, and the evening comes and settles over us with its cool, which is everything, and I know that in the midst of all this you don't like a wrong turn, a dead end, no matter what its surroundings are. That's what I was for you, I think, a wrong turn and a dead end. It's all I could have been, and I won't lead you on any longer. Not in any direction. I love you like a friend, and think of you always, but the path ends here. ●

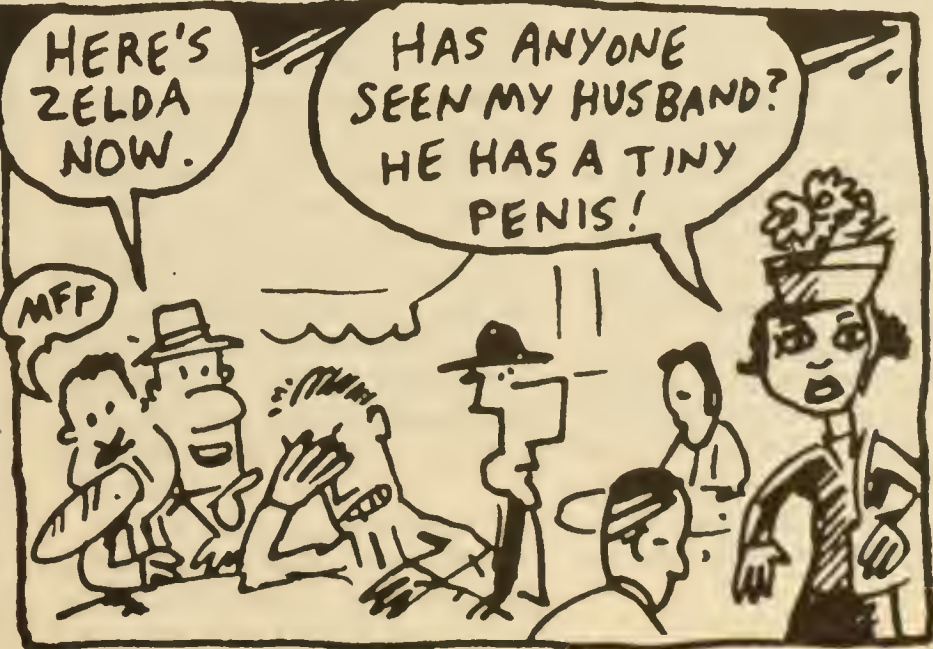
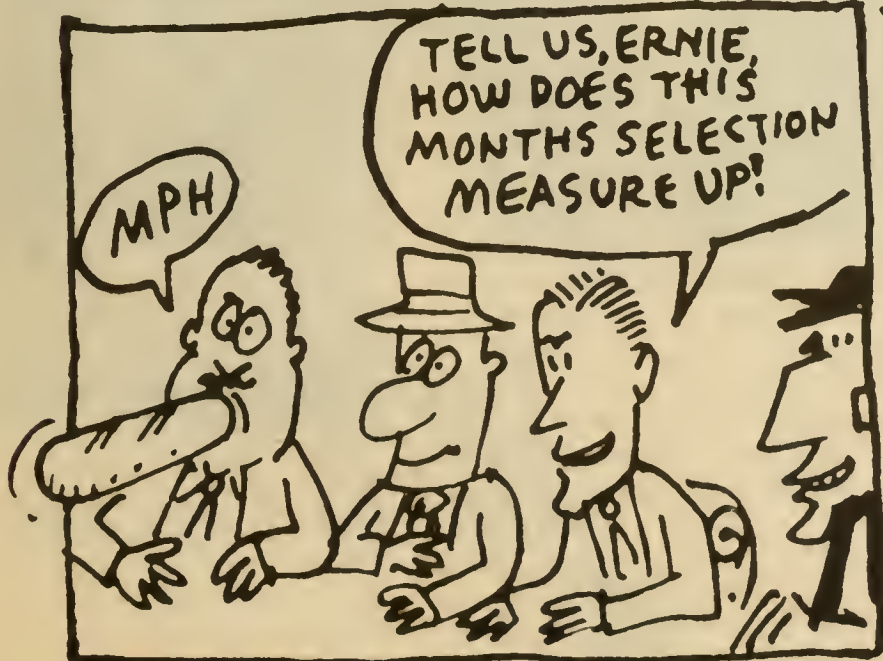
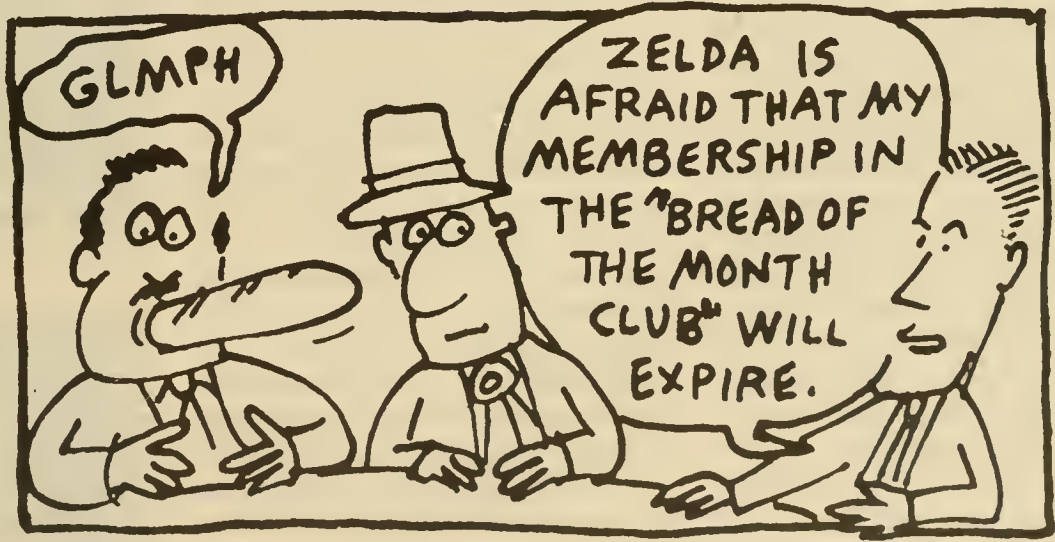
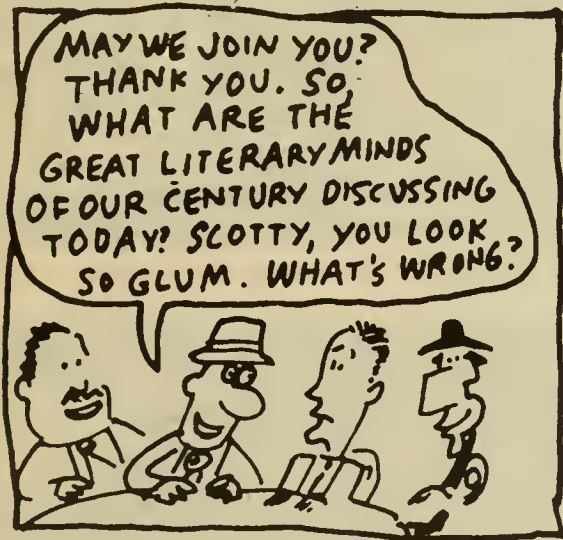
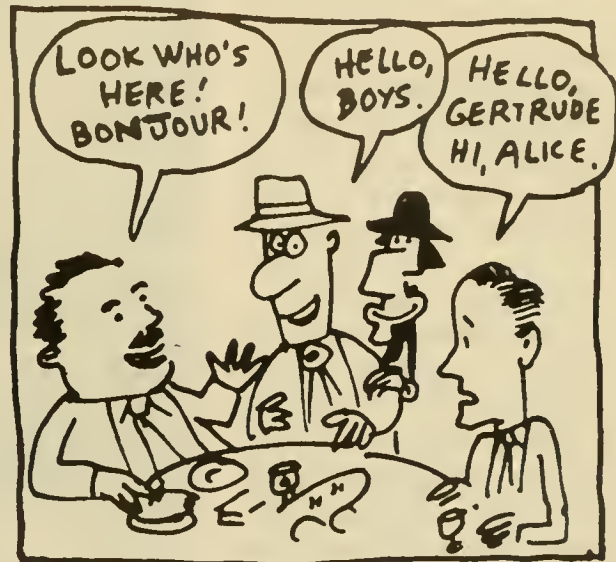
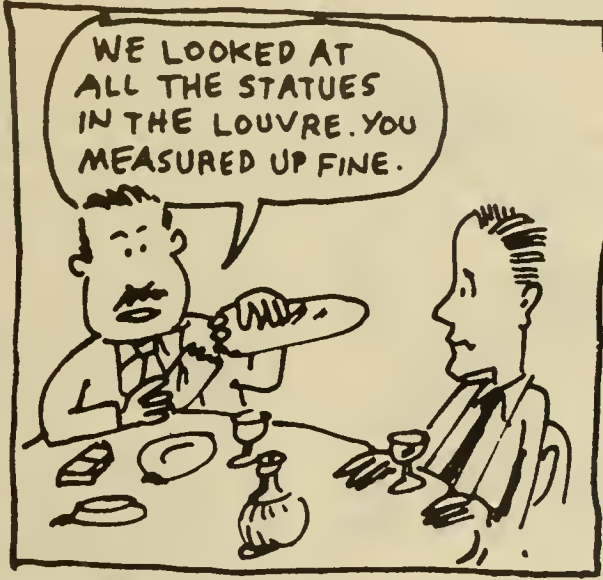
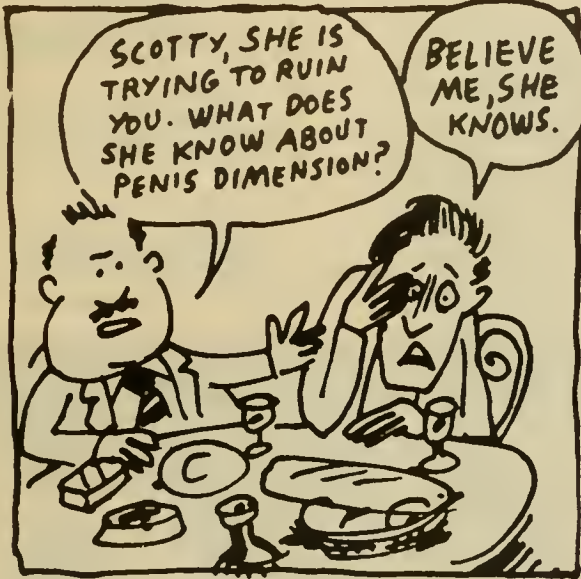
photo: © Daniel Collins



But can they type? The British theatrical troupe Bloodlips had a six-day run at Expo '86 in Vancouver recently, and were such a hit they've been invited back for next spring. Knocking the socks (and other bits) off Vancouverites in a compendium show called *The Best of Bloodlips* were (left to right from rear) Gretel Feather, Bette Bourne, Lavinia Co-op, Precious Pearl, Phil Harmonia and Diva Dan. ●

GERTRUDE'S Follies

TOM HATCHMAN



FICTION

In Henderson, a small resort community just outside of San Francisco, the annual Slugfest is considered the social event of the year. Prizes go to the biggest slug. There's Grand Prix Slug racing. And, of course, there's the ever-popular slug tasting. This year, however, the festivities are marred... by murder! Someone has poisoned one of the slug judges!

In *The Last Annual Slugfest*, (St Martin's Press, 1986), author Susan Dunlop's mixture of mystery and tastelessness starts promisingly, but soon turns quite flat. In her pursuit to discover the murderer, our heroine, Vejay Haskell, meter-reader by day/crime lover by night, encounters a series of not-so-interesting suspects: Angelina the hard-edged businesswoman, Hooper the noble Pomo Indian, Leila the lesbian book-seller.

This is a Made-for-TV book. All the characters are cardboard and talk in exposition. Chapters end in mini-climaxes, allowing you to take a commercial break. Dunlop holds your hand and explains every aspect of the mystery lest you figure out anything for yourself.

In contrast author Shelley Singer explains very little of what's going on in *Fullhouse* (St Martin's Press, 1986), in this case because I think very little is going on. This is a "detective action" book, not a "who dunit."

A religious cult is building an ark in Oakland when their leader, Noah (but of course), is kidnapped. Enter Jake Samson, world-weary private eye, and his lesbian friend, Rosie, to investigate the situation. Along the way there's some amusing dialogue, a little violence, a little romance (very little) and a lot of questions.

Singer also introduces Jake's visiting parents to round out his character. It works. Jake is believable; he's just not very interesting. And neither is the story. It's only in the last quarter of the book that any real action occurs. And when it does happen, Singer writes so sparingly you're not completely sure what's going on.

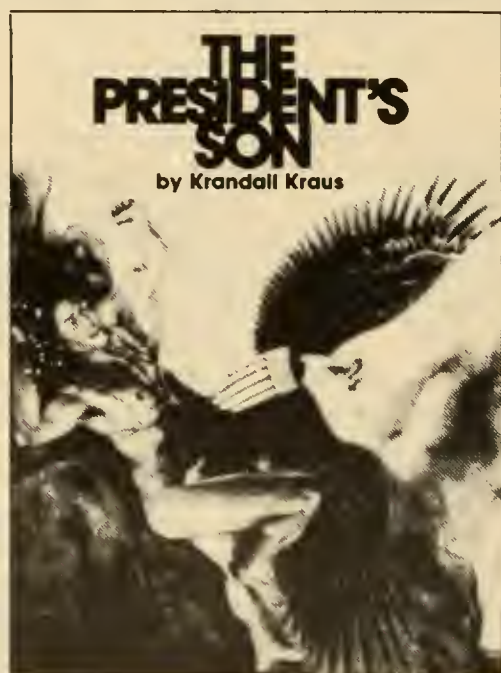
What's interesting about both books is their portrayals of homosexuals. In both cases, some gay press has touted these as gay books, but it isn't true. Yes, each story has a gay character, but the homosexuality isn't of anymore consequence than the colour of the characters. In *Slugfest* the homosexuality is never used as anything more than a plot device. And in *Fullhouse*, the friend just happens to be a lesbian. Which is fine, a lot of women just happen to be lesbian — but is that all? There is no gay sensibility in either book. Dunlop and Singer are interested only in writing exciting mysteries. And even then....

Alex Gilatis●

The President's Son (by Krandell Kraus, Alyson Publications, \$7.95 US) is a nicely written book about the life of a gay man. His father is the President of the United States; his mother is the First Lady and he is a major concern. The son, DJ Marshall, is a fairly responsible young man and not much of a worry to the President and his advisors, but his lover is a problem.

DJ has his type and it is not the kind you bring home to mom, even if she isn't the First Lady. Of course, mom knows quite a bit about her son's lover and so does dad. And so do the President's closest aides, who are assigned to deal with this complicated problem. No one in the story is sup-

posed to resemble anyone in real life, but there are lots of similarities to present White House tenants. The First Lady, for example, keeps a small hand-gun in her night-table. But there is also a lot



of detail to throw us off scent.

This isn't really a gay novel. The story does not dwell on the son's homosexuality — it is really just part of a political story about life in the White House and the individual freedoms lost in the political arena.

Doug Grenville●

In David Rees's *The Hunger* (Gay Men's Press, \$7.50 US), we find ourselves in 1845 Ireland, in an out-of-the-way parish called Clasheen. Anthony Altarnun moves in from London to act as landowner for his absentee brother, and meets (whilst skinny-dipping in the estate pool) Michael Tangney, son of the local ironsmith. Michael, for the first time, finds another "who is as I am!"

Together they set up house as master and servant, benevolently governing the estate's peasants. They hope to live and love long, despite noisy neighbours like Mrs Peacock (who is scandalized to come across the new landowner reciting Shakespeare to his servant). But four years later, the potatoes go bad. And the next year, and the next.

David Rees is an engrossing storyteller, and I found myself caught up in this tale from the very start. A detailed and horrific chronicle is woven throughout of Ireland's problems at the time, the all-embracing famine and disease, the shameful obliviousness of the English (a parallel seems to be made between England/Ireland and hetero-homosexuality), and the desperate flight of thousands to America through and to conditions as deadly as those they left behind.

The gay love story fits uneasily into this, perhaps due to Anthony's too-good-to-be-true saintliness in his every action, and to the somewhat contemporary tone of the pair's relationship. We have little idea, of course, how such a pair might have led their lives, but Anthony and Michael's loving, teasing, fighting and frustrations too often sound like what one might overhear drifting down from a sundeck in your local gay ghetto. The reactions of those around them when all is revealed, however, especially the blank incomprehension of most, are quite convincing.

John Allec●

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Songs at the core of stillness

On June 8, soon after the publication of her autobiography, *Elsa: I Come With My Songs*, Elsa Gidlow passed away. As a Buddhist — Gidlow's spiritual path was Matriarchal Taoism — she would no doubt consider death an occasion for reflection and rejoicing. Fortunately, her book provides an opportunity for both, revealing as it does a lesbian life of quiet determination and extraordinary grace.

She was born December 29, 1898 in Yorkshire, England; six years later her family migrated to pioneer town Tetreauville, Quebec. As the oldest of eventually seven children, all crammed into a two-room shack, she fulfilled the co-parenting obligations expected of daughters and later doubled as eldest son to her railroad-employee father, travelling with him as his secretary, a job then held by men. Watching her overworked mother cope cheerfully with a 24-hour breed-and-feed schedule sparked Gidlow's feminism, her love and respect for women and sense of responsibility to them. The later discovery that their living conditions were unnecessarily harsh, given her absentee father's upward mobility and middle-class status, added fuel and clarity to the flames and strengthened her resolve to be an independent woman, living her own life on equal terms with men at a time when jobs for women were limited to factory work and stenography.

She was almost completely self-taught. A few years in Catholic grammar school and a brief stint in a makeshift one-room high school comprised her only formal education, but she read voraciously and by adolescence she knew her vocation was writing. At age 17, while working as a full-time stenographer and on the rebound from her first, unconsummated, lesbian passion, she went looking for like-minded literary friends via the personals column of a Montreal newspaper; as luck would have it, some of her correspondents were gay too. One of these was Roswell Mills, theatre critic for the Montreal Star and dedicated fin de siècle aesthete. "He went, scrubbed in tweeds, to his work on the newspaper, but at home among



"Sappho:" Gidlow in bohemian New York

friends, at the theatre and concerts, he was delicately made up and elegantly dressed, wearing exotic jewelry and as colorful clothes as he dared. Receiving at home, he donned a bronze green robe of heavy silk." And shared cosmetics with his mother. He dubbed Elsa "Sappho;" they



"In myself was the power:" Poet Elsa Gidlow, three years before her death in June.

formed a small salon and collaborated on a lesbian/gay-slanted literary journal, *les Mouches Fantastiques*, featuring social criticism, poetry and one-act plays, and translations from the French Symbolists.

This bit of Bohemiana bore fruit; circulating to the United States it caught the attention of sexual liberationist Frank Harris, author of the pornographic *My Life and Loves* and champion of such controversial reforms as birth control for women. Their connection solidified when Gidlow, at 21, moved to New York City hoping to make her way as some kind of journalist and after months of penniless frustration was granted a niche at Harris's *Pearson's Magazine*. Harris taught her editing skills and encouraged her poetry's Sapphic content. She published widely enough in these years to pull together a first book (*On a Grey Thread*) and, though *Pearson's* was unmentionable on a résumé, gained enough practical ability to establish a career in trade journalism, eventually going freelance.

Along with the ups and downs of publishing life, Gidlow's autobiography chronicles her many loves. All of them were lesbian. Her first lover, in Montreal, was a musically talented bisexual. Though pleasantly educational, the affair ironically coincided with Gidlow's distracting love for an unavailable straight friend. The book is written with an eye on the universal, and it's interesting to note that Mauve Decade cunt-teasers used the same catalogue of wiles employed by their Eighties counterparts. Deliciously informative.

Her second affair happened in Manhattan and

was carried on virtually in front of her lover's family. Here again it becomes apparent how important it is for older gays to tell their stories, as Gidlow treats us to a careful consideration of the think-no-evil/see-no-evil syndrome in straight/gay relationships of the day. This background explains her decision to remain assimilated, never discussing her sexual orientation with anyone but her closest friends, flaunting it only in print. But Gidlow's feminism springs from a time when a woman who dared to smoke in a restaurant was asked by the management to leave, and she makes it clear that by early twentieth century political priorities she was first a working woman, second a female poet, and last a lesbian. To call her camouflage closeted would thus be an oversimplification, a point she reinforces with some comments on Kinsey, who "...splashed every friendship with sexual primary colors. Yet every committed alliance, heterosexual or same gender, ranges through all the nuances of love or affectional coloration. The post-Kinsey genital preoccupation limits our range of responses." But these are also the reflections of a feminist who, though diametrically opposed to patriarchal values, could not have accomplished her aims without the care and friendship of men.

In 1924 she met Violet Henry-Anderson, aka Tommy, and settled into a 10-year marriage, non-monogamous by contract. Together they moved to San Francisco, where Tommy found work as a lawyer's secretary. The stability of the relationship enabled Gidlow to extend financial and emotion-

al support to her family, especially two of her sisters who were welcomed as housemates. She was ever faithful to her mother, and in that woman's declining years gave her a home in California and tended her through her final illness. The seeds of revolt sown in the hardship of her early environment (and she would see three of her siblings go insane because of it) never allowed her to abandon responsibility, but matured into a practical fascination for experimental social politics.

After Tommy's death Gidlow lived alone in the country outside Fairfax, California and in the late Forties dabbled in town planning, ousting a corrupt government and electing a liberal mayor. She held a post as commissioner and survived the McCarthy witch-hunts — ironically, for she was an anarchist by persuasion. In the late Fifties she put that philosophy into action, cooperatively buying land in Marin county to develop an alternative community, *Druid Heights*, which became her permanent home. Besides Gidlow and her second spouse Isabel Quallo, the commune included a variety of artists, craftspeople and activists, ranging from Zen philosopher Alan Watts to prostitute rights activist Margot St James, founder of COYOTE.

With Watts and his wife Jano, Gidlow created the Society for Comparative Philosophy. From the start her mysticism was both experiential and functional: at the age of six she sensed or saw a nature spirit residing in a local creek, emitting a force field she interpreted as female and later utilized in her search for companions. She was likewise an intuitive meditator, discovering its value during her most down and out days in Manhattan: "*The earth spins on an invisible axis... A core of stillness*. No-motion at the center of motion — and emotion. A living No-thingness at the center of the universe. This forgotten phrase possessed me as an internal sensation. I physically felt it in my solar plexus... I recognized this core of stillness as the center of invulnerability... In that living and inviolable core was the source of whatever strength I was thereafter able to call upon. In myself was the power, the authority." Such deep understanding is no mere white-wash of or escape from existence, but the basic motivation, and it harmonized with every aspect of her life. Even her Zen correlated with a poet's need to hone her craft on nature; her description of a wasp's nest-making activities, as observed in an afternoon's sitting, reads like perfect Haiku.

Much more could be said about this inspiring life, but I'll leave readers of *I Come With My Songs* to the adventure. The book, edited by Celeste West, is exquisitely and durably bound, delightfully indexed, and lush with lovely pics. May its author have an easy journey through the Bardos.

Michele Belling

Elsa: I Come With My Songs is published by Booklegger Press (555-29th St, San Francisco, CA 94131). \$10.95 (US).

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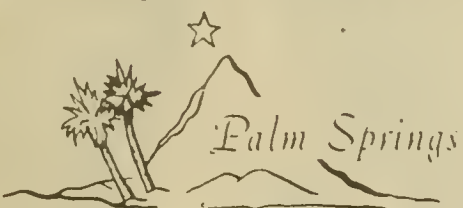
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The agony of AIDS — from a mother's viewpoint

The Screaming Room by Barbara Peabody. Oak Tree Publications (9601 Aero Drive, Suite 202, San Diego CA), 1986. \$25.95.

Jeff Kirby •

At a glance, the titles of new books of interest to gay men resemble headlines in current issues of AIDS Weekly. ARP — AIDS-Related Publications — have swamped the market, and while most are educational (medical/preventative, social/political), some border on exploitation, pandering to the fears and wants of the masses.

While most gay men are familiar with what AIDS is, few know what it is like to live with it. This is the subject of Barbara Peabody's book, a day-to-day journal of a mother who assists in her gay son's struggle with pneumocystis carinii pneumonia, a life-threatening illness for people with AIDS. This plaintive work unflinchingly documents not only the disease but its effects, psychologically and physically, on her son, Peter, herself, and on the small world of patients, relatives and friends linked by the crisis. Peabody does not pretend to be a polished author. Like the disease, her writing is blunt, and devastating. This is not a medical journal — there is a real sense of immediacy as Barbara and Peter clutch at straws for any information or combination of drugs which will bring remission. We are drawn in by their knowledge, not distanced by mere facts. Moreover, the book painfully describes the battle a patient often wages with the medical science bureaucracy that can be more infuriating than the disease itself.

Wed, Oct 3:

"How do you plan to pay for the test?" the bored secretary asks.

"He's on MediCal, don't they pay for it?" I ask, surprised.

"No, not unless you petition for payment," she answers.

"And that takes three weeks, right?" I smile ironically.

"That's right"

"Well, I guess you better start the petition," I tell her. "Would you please let me know right away when it's accepted And how long does it take to get an appointment for the test?"

"At least a week."

My God! Four weeks at least! We don't have that much time to wait around. Controlling my voice, I tell her, "Please let me know right away, we're in a hurry to get it scheduled."

"Yes, of course," she replies.

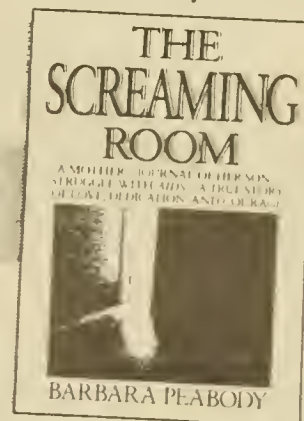
I feel tears of desperation in my eyes. Peter has just been examined by the doctor here in the ENT Clinic, who cleaned out the wax in his ear and found nothing abnormal, but recommended an ENG, or electronystagmographic test, to determine whether the current infection causing vertigo and nausea is based in the ear or the brain.

Doesn't anyone understand we don't have time to waste? If it's another brain infection, we must treat it right away, at least do our best. Even another week could be too late. If it's an ear infection, it must be treated promptly, so that it doesn't spread to the brain.

Insensitive bureaucracy raises its head

again, and the bucket empties faster and faster. Is Peter right, that nobody listens and nobody cares?

The Screaming Room is not an easy read. As with illness, Peabody's journal entries are often repetitive. Small signs of recovery become landmarks in the world of hope — even though we all know the end of the story. The inevitability of



Peter's death is accepted from the beginning by his mother, though that doesn't mean both don't battle for survival. Peter's spirit is strong-willed, but the human body is not yet equipped for such warfare and the armoury is depleted. Barbara Peabody's journal entries cover a period of 11 months — from the day she hears of Peter's diagnosis until his death at 29. As the only non-medical, non-fictional, first-hand account of the struggle with the disease, it demands attention. It's the book Peter himself wanted to write, had he the strength or days.

Peabody continues to instruct art classes for AIDS patients in California. •

POEM

Key to Mena's Wailing

When was the first
you learned a woman's name
stark black on eggshell
sealed raw in liquid pearl
and caught gamy oils
from between her thighs
rubbed scent on beeswax
when the stars were still?

How did you lie
by her outstretched glands
plucked/tuned crescendo
by your full, warm lips?

Why carry her face
the things she's done
so restless in your lap
so loose under the tongue?

Where did you hide
her breasts wet with lace,
parchment under her feet,
aqueducts for her tears?

So, who are you, woman
when you touch Mena's wailing
sip the blood of her season
rock her womb with a gentle hand?

Terri L. Jewell •

Terri L. Jewell is a Black Dyke poet and an anthologist of lesbian humour.

Roy Cohn: A kind of eulogy

At the time of his death in July of AIDS complications, Roy Cohn, the American criminal lawyer, had long been widely detested.

When then-Vice President Richard Nixon boasted in March 1954 that the Administration had fired 198 sexual perverts, he knew whereof he spoke. And the US gay community, at least, knew at whom to point the finger of blame.

Roy Cohn had been functioning for some time as chief counsel to homophobic Joseph McCarthy. McCarthy, American senator and buccaneering political fantasist, chaired one of the loyalty committees that were thick on the ground in that period. McCarthy was immedicably allergic to facts. It was said of him that whenever he tasted of the fruit of the tree of knowledge, he threw up.

The senator was at this time in noisy pursuit of Commies in government service. He found none, but it was inevitable that the hunt for security risks would expand to include gays. And, as Nixon's vaunt indicates, it did. Roy Cohn functioned as McCarthy's legal hatchet. That the young lawyer was, in fact, himself gay was a popular topic of bitter raillery in the gay bars of Manhattan during the Fifties. Those with a belief that the mills of the gods grind out justice slowly must now find, in Cohn's death, a grim if unsettling sense of the adage's truth.

He was among the most conspicuous closet cases of his generation. At the same time he was perhaps among the most recklessly romantic.

How else to explain the extraordinary events of 1952-1954? They present us with a 26-year-old Cohn, already far gone in chicanery, already widely feared, already prepared to subvert the world. Well, if not the world, at least the US army. His boss, McCarthy, was well into a Commie-hunting imbroglio with the army when in July 1953, Cohn began to betray a quite personal



Infatuation: Cohn (centre, standing) tried everything to keep good-looking David Schine (seated, left) out of the army.

anxiety over the fate of his about-to-be inducted friend David Schine. The two had met the previous year. A journalist described the tall, slim, blond Schine as a "good-looking youth in the style that one associates with male orchestra sing-



Conspicuous closet/reckless romantic: Roy Cohn (left), deep in consultation with Senator Joseph McCarthy during committee hearings in 1954.

ers." By contrast, Cohn was short, "had a soft mouth and deceptively heavy eyelids." That was our Roy — deceit, right up to and including the weight of his eyelids.

To the delight of some it was reported that Schine owned the world's largest collection of cigars. Undeterred either by Schine's good looks or the collection of cigars, Cohn embarked on a campaign to have the army grant his friend a commission. And why not? After all, Schine, whose father owned a chain of hotels, had recently distinguished himself by authoring a six-page pamphlet warning of the evils of Communism. An indulgent sire had placed the publication in the hotel rooms of his empire. The knowledgeable few who read the pamphlet complained that it was notable for its errors.

McCarthy was later to buttress Cohn's abrasive pleas on behalf of Schine by urging that the wealthy goodlooker be given a sensitive literary assignment — examining West Point textbooks for signs of Commie propaganda. West Point did not snap at the proposal. Cohn's struggle to wrest a commission for his friend also came to nothing. Schine was inducted as a private and stationed for his initial period of basic training at a New Jersey army base.

Cohn now commenced a personal guerilla campaign on behalf of Schine that saw urgent calls being placed to such men as Secretary of the Army Robert Stevens and chief army counsel John G Adams, as well as an assortment of base commanders. The sole aim of the calls was to obtain special favours for Private Schine. The claim was advanced that Schine's talents were needed by McCarthy's committee. Cohn badgered his boss, the senator, who ruefully confided to Army brass that the committee had no urgent need of Schine's dubious expertise. But whenever Cohn was present McCarthy dummied up. He would let

Cohn press furiously on with his infatuated campaign.

And infatuation is what must have been behind it. Schine's literary efforts did not qualify him for attention and he seemingly had no legal training. His primary qualification for all the attention the army was obliged to pay him appears to have been Cohn's passionate need to have him close by. Other than romantic obsession, nothing could explain the reckless insistence with which, week after week, he badgered, upbraided and abused army officials to grant Schine special favours: day passes, weekend passes, and on-base privileges not granted other inductees. Disgruntled fellow privates began to complain of the contrast to reporters.

Cohn would not be deterred. Unable, during a New York drive to enlist the cooperation of army counsel Adams, Cohn taught him a lesson by dumping him mid-traffic on Park Avenue. A common tactic was to hint darkly that failure to yield to Cohn's importunities would result in an appearance before a loyalty investigation board at which Cohn himself would function as inquisitor.

All of this finally came to be public knowledge when harried army officials took a cue from Schine's book and resorted to publication. What came to be called the Army Report was a revealing chronicle of every call Cohn had made on behalf of David Schine. A copy of this document can be read on microfiche in any well-stocked reference library.

The report added no lustre to the reputation of browbeaten Army brass. But it provided clear testimony to the force of a passion that Cohn's death confirms must have been a gay one. In some fashion Cohn may well be the definitive closet case. For, as Dr Johnson long ago affirmed, "No man is a hypocrite in his pleasures."

As the definitive case, Cohn's closet repertoire of self-concealing stratagems was totally cancelled out by the self-revealing force of his romantic passion. His presumably unrequited infatuation with Schine goaded him into an enterprise that must surely stand as a unique, albeit bizarre, testament to the incipient spirit of gay liberation.

For who of Cohn's generation acted out the irrepressible fiats of the heart with so vendetta-like a panache? Yes, 35 years later, any number of gay litigants in search of redress publicly lock horns with one branch or another of the military. But Cohn pole-vaulted over due process and beneath the shadow of McCarthy's larger fire-power, keeping up his own personal volley against the big guns of the US army. As befits eulogy, the image is strained, but let it stand as a tribute to a bursting moment of passionate desire making an essentially gay claim on the establishment.

There may not be much that isn't tacky or quasi-criminal to be retrieved from Cohn's 59 years. But for a garish instant little, sinister, unloveable but loving Roy Cohn soared up like a rocket into the sky above homophobic America. If we seek an early sign of the daring that began gay liberation, perhaps the little lawyer has earned a place for himself as an augur.

So, thanks and adieu, Roy Cohn — you creep.

Alfred Taylor

Employing as many pseudonyms as he can, the author lives in legendary squalor in Toronto's swank Annex. The real Alfred Taylor served two year's imprisonment when he refused to testify against Oscar Wilde.

High Anglican, low blow

A Study Resource on Human Sexuality: Approaches to Sexuality and Christian Theology edited by James Reed. National Executive Council of the Anglican Church of Canada. \$7.95.

Eilert Frerichs •

The latest trend in Christianity is the discovery of homosexuals. The conservative response to this is simple — they know that we are the source of the breakdown of the family and of assorted other evils. If only we submitted ourselves to the Lord Jesus Christ, we would be “healed” at once and the conservatives could get back to their real agenda, which is the establishment of the republic of God in North America.

Liberal Christians, however, find themselves in a real dilemma. Their passion is for “social justice” and since they have heard that lesbians and gays are oppressed, they have made us one of their “causes.” Their problem is how to do justice without having to go all the way, since they are equally committed to unity and peace in the Church. To do justice would mean the acknowledgement that Christianity is in large part responsible for the oppression of lesbians and gays. It would mean their admittance to the ministry and it would mean giving the Churches’ blessings and support to lesbian and gay relationships. That, I agree, would tear the Churches apart!

The liberal solution to this dilemma is to appoint a Committee on Human Sexuality. It does its work in total secrecy and does not, officially at least, have any lesbian or gay members — lest it be seen as biased. The Committee is given a mandate (by the Anglican House of Bishops in this case) to study human sexuality in light of the Bible, the Christian tradition and reason. In this broad context sexuality can be discussed safely because it allows the Committee to uphold the Churches’ teachings about the family and marriage and thus to establish their credentials as orthodox believers in the Bible. The Christian tradition is used to establish their liberal credentials, because it is safe to be critical of the tradition in so far as it has an impact on the status of women in Church and society. The appeal to reason enables the Committee to review the literature on homosexuality and to quote freely those authors whom most of us would consider to be homophobic. They will merely cite the titles of books written by lesbians or gays. All of this is done with the very best of intentions since liberals are never aware of their heterosexist biases, and because the intention is to enable ordinary Church members to study all sides of the issue. The only problem with this approach is that, since all sides of the issue must be presented uncritically, people in the pew are never enabled to examine their own biases or feelings and thus to learn something. Instead, liberals, conservatives and those in between will find in the study only what they already knew.

Afficionados of Church politics will love this Anglican study on human sexuality. Eight members of the Committee are named together with “other consultants who do not wish to be named.” Rumour has it that these unnamed consultants are two prominent conservative bishops who withdrew from the Committee because it was



Illustration: Renata Janiszewski

too liberal. One of the papers in the book is even published anonymously. According to rumour, again, the book would not have been published at all without a disclaimer from the House of Bishops that “...these documents do not have official approval. They are not agreed doctrine or ethical statements. The bishops are aware that some opinions quoted may be perceived as calling into question some commonly held views of the Christian position on this subject.”

All this, despite the fact that in 1976 the very same House of Bishops also declared that “homosexual persons, as children of God, have a full and equal claim, with all other persons, upon the love, acceptance, concern and pastoral care of the Church. The Gospel of Jesus Christ compels Christians to guard against all forms of human injustice, and to affirm that all persons are brothers and sisters for whom Christ died. We affirm that homosexual persons are entitled to equal protection under the law with all other Canadian citizens.”

While this declaration is quoted in the present study, it seems to have had little effect on the individual authors except for Phyllis Creighton. Her paper, entitled *Social Issues, Homosexuality and Gay People*, describes the social and political oppression of lesbians and gays and prescribes specific steps which the Church ought to take to end discrimination and homophobia.

She even has the courtesy to quote a few gay authors — but she does so in a way that subtly undermines what they have to say. One “paints a picture;” the others either “claim,” “contend,” “think,” “assert,” “believe,” “suggest,” or “ob-

serve” (12 times). Only five times do we actually “say” something. Straight authors generally “find,” “report,” or “conclude.” Such language, while not intentional, nonetheless reflects a cultural heterosexist bias.

The liberal solution to the dilemma of what to do with the homosexual fact is best illustrated in the three contributions to the study by James Reed. A professor at Trinity College in the University of Toronto and a psychotherapist, Reed was the Chair of the Study Committee and is the editor of the book. His first paper, *Theology, Ethics and Sexuality*, reviews both traditional and contemporary Christian teachings on sex, sexuality, marriage and fidelity. He writes beautifully and helpfully about the purposes of sexuality “as the inescapable stuff of our personality.” In terms of behaviour and moral decision-making, Reed is again helpful to those who wish to act out their sexuality in ways that are loving and just. What he has to say is applicable to lesbians and gays as well as to heterosexuals.

Reed’s second paper, *Learning to be Sexual: Perspectives from Biology, Psychology, and Sociology*, deals with a more delicate and controversial set of problems — the sexual development of persons. Since neither the Bible nor the Christian tradition has anything to say about human sexual development, the natural and social sciences are called upon, albeit with the caution that there are limits to scientific knowledge. Reed reviews concisely but uncritically some of the major scientific theories about human sexual development. It would have been very helpful for church people at this point to learn something about the develop-

ment of lesbians and gays, yet Reed chooses not to do so.

James Reed’s final contribution is called *Homosexual Identity and Act: A Continuing Search for Understanding*. Early in the paper, he establishes his credentials: “While much of what I shall say is technical in nature, it is being written with an appreciative awareness of many persons whom I have known or still know as a pastor, theological educator, psychotherapist, and friend.” Basic to his quest for understanding homosexuals is his distinction between homosexual identity and act. Had Reed talked with some of us, he might have learned that our own self-understanding leads us to reject precisely that distinction. Maintaining it leaves the way open for those who “love the sinner and hate the sin” as well as to those who see nothing wrong with a same-sex orientation but find the act so objectionable that they urge us to become celibate. As a good liberal, James Reed leaves that option wide open. Over and over again, Reed asserts that no clear answers about the origins of homosexuality can be found in biology, psychoanalysis, social learning theories or the Bible and traditional Christian theology. All the more curious, then, is his concluding section on Acceptance or Transformation. Transformation here means “cure.” Reed cites C A Tripp in *The Homosexual Matrix* that “there are no ‘cures.’” In the very next sentence, he quotes Dr I Bieber who, in his book *Homosexuality: A Psychoanalytic Study*, “argues that homosexuals in this study became and remained heterosexual.” This is the liberal methodology at its very best!

And in the next paragraph, Reed quotes at length a Dr Stanley Willis, who argues that the goal of effective psychotherapy ought not to be the elimination of homosexual behaviour, but rather “to free the patient from the tyranny of his own unconscious so that he is able to make a rational choice and to continue in human relationships characterized by fidelity and the ability to receive and give love and care regardless of the gender of his partner.”

Will the real James Reed please stand up? He does so at the very end: “If an individual considers his or her homosexuality as a difficulty of some sort, he or she would probably seek assistance from an appropriately trained professional. Such a professional would be able to give a thorough diagnosis of what makes a particular homosexual condition. In other words, such a counsellor would differentiate the distinctive features of a person’s homosexuality, and would give an assessment of what sorts of treatment were available and appropriate (e.g. psychoanalysis, psychotherapy, behaviour modification, spiritual healing, or group therapy), as well as an assessment of their effectiveness.”

O Lord, save us from appropriately trained professionals. Amen. •

Eilert Frerichs is a United Church Minister who works as a Chaplain at the University of Toronto. He is also a member of AFFIRM — Lesbians and Gays in the United Church.

IN MEMORY

Robert Burdick

I read with sadness that the poet Robert Burdick was murdered in his New York apartment in early August. He was 78. A man Bob had befriended has reportedly confessed to the crime and stated to police that he killed the poet because Burdick had sex with boys.

Bob was a long-time supporter of the gay movement and a co-founder of the North American Man/Boy Love Association. As one newspaper commented, "he advocated that relationships between older and younger men be based on selfless love rather than sex."

Though I met Bob only a few times at gay gatherings in New York, he afterwards wrote to me more than once just to say hello. He was unfailingly generous with his time and energies, always eager to help.

Bob's poetry (sometimes accompanied by the delightful drawings of his friend Sid Smith) graced many gay magazines in the '70s and '80s. He was the author of the book *Inner Tides*, where this sadly apt poem was published. I can think of no better epitaph — or elegy. *Ian Young* ●

I did not kiss the stranger;
I merely shook his hand.
We wandered through the darkness,
Whole universes spanned.

The beauty and the power
Within the Stranger's eye
Magnetic, lured me onward
From earth through splendid sky.

We danced among the planets;
We skipped from star to star;
Our spirits shared the pleasures
Of spirits from afar.

At last, exhausted, standing
Before the gates above,
My guide, transformed, transcendent,
Revealed himself as Love.
Then as the stars shone brighter,
My lover held me fast,
Yet sank I into darkness
As eons drifted past.

Then in an utter darkness,
Condemned, I wandered free,
My only love the stranger.
My life mortality.

The fiery darkness deepens,
My love and I conspire,
At last embrace the stranger
Hold fast immortal fire.

The awe of Good and Evil
Now stark before me stand,
I did not kiss the stranger,
I merely took his hand.



Illustration: Dale Bolivar

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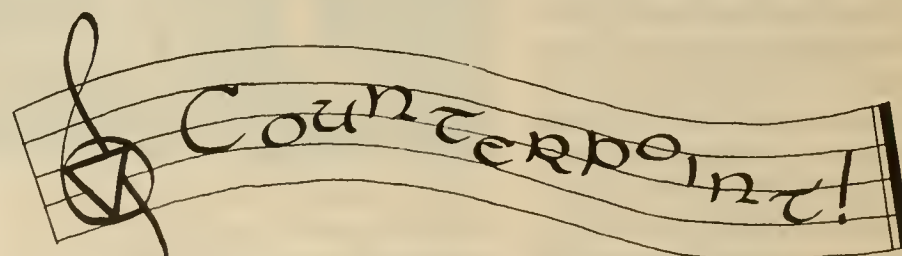
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ARCHEOLOGIES

Names: Linda Wayne (left) and Allyson Lunny

Dwelling: Second-floor, two-bedroom flat in west Toronto

Rent: \$500 per month

First dozen books on Linda's shelf at time of photograph: Archaeological Atlas of the World, Dictionary of Terms and Techniques in Archaeology, Primitive Mythology, Occidental Mythology, Herodotus The Histories, The Bacchae and Other Plays, Medea and Other Plays, Lysistrata

and Other Plays, An Inquiry Concerning Human Understanding, The Prince, Utopia, Candide.

First dozen books on Allyson's shelf at time of photograph: Diane Arbus, About Looking, How to Enter and Win Black and White Photography Contests, Dead Tech, Portrait of an Art-

ist, My Secret Garden, The Feminization of American Culture, Lesbian/Woman, Le Grand Meaulnes, Persuasion, Emma, Sense and Sensibility.

Number of plants in room at time of photograph: 17

First dozen tapes in cabinet at time of photograph (hand-labelled): Magazine, Roxy Music (Brian Ferry), Tchaikovsky Symphony #5, Stravinsky Rite of Spring, U2 and Nina Hagen, XTC and Fingerprinz, Herman Brood and Iggy Pop, Parachute Club, Siouxsie, Orchestral Manouvres, Laurie Anderson, Siouxsie 2.

Time photograph was taken: September 4, 1986 about 5:30 pm. ●

Some rules: Gay sex is still illegal if either party is under 21 years of age, or if more than two people are involved, regardless of their ages. Please word your ad accordingly. The Ontario Human Rights Code prohibits specifications based on race, age or sex in any ad offering employment. Personal ads offering scenarios that might reasonably be read as racially or otherwise abusive or stereotypical must clearly indicate that what is being requested is mutually consensual sexual play and not relations of genuine subservience, such as employment. We reserve the right to refuse or alter any ad.

Mail your ad along with payment or charge information to us at: **TBP Classifieds, Box 7289, Stn A, Toronto, ON M5W 1X9.** Or you can place your ad by phone: figure out what you want to say, get out your charge card and call us at (416) 364-6320. Ask for the person in charge of classified ads.

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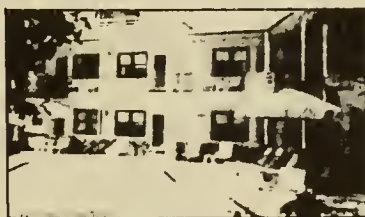
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subway line, Thurs, Aug 28, 6:30pm. You were wearing a black
baggy sweater with the V in the back and a large brown and
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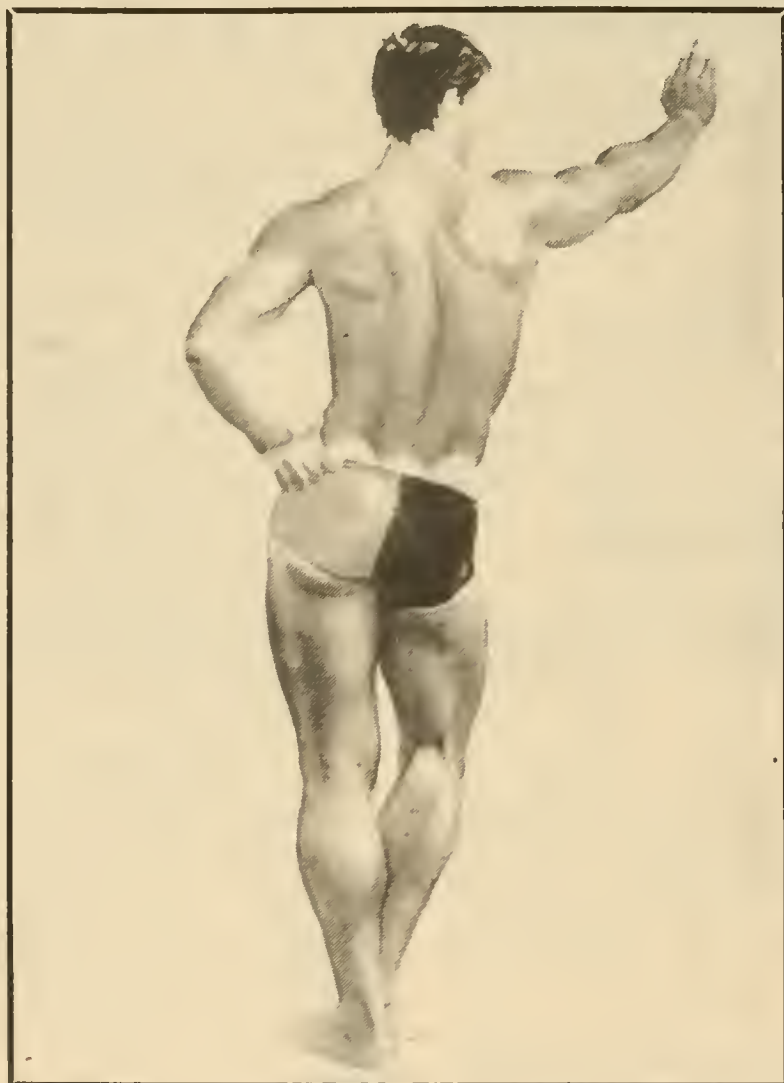
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VERSATILE, CREWCUT, BEARDED MASCULINE GWM available as model/escort. Call Leo, 962-9396.

WELL-BUILT BODYBUILDER, 24, rugged, blond, blue eyes, now available for model or escort. Call Rob: 297-9880.

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THE LARGEST PENPAL SERVICE for gays and bisexuals now has a 16-page brochure on how to find a prison penpal, what to do when that happens, what to send, what not to send, hot letters, pornography, financial rip-offs, emotional rip-offs, postal money order scams, visits, getting out, falling in love, who the inmate really is, and "why am I doing this?" The whole inside story is contained in our how-to booklet called *Dear Insider*. It is available with every Joint Venture membership subscription: three month trial, \$5; one year, \$15. Single copies are available for \$2. Joint Venture is a non-profit corporation. Write us at Box 26-8484, Chicago IL 60626.

PHOTO: ARTEMIS



P R I S O N E R S

PEN-PALS

A NOTE to prisoners who wish to have pen pals — Metropolitan Community Church is offering a pen-pal service to men and women prisoners through the church's prison ministry. Prison Ministry:, 2029 Gerrard St E, Toronto ON M4E 2B3.

BOOKS FOR PRISONERS

LEFT BANK BOOKS sponsors a Books For Prisoners project. Through donations and a postage grant we are able to send free miscellaneous books to inmates everywhere (provided an institution allows them). We offer special order books at cost (usually 35-40% off). Prisoners and other interested persons should write: Books For Prisoners, Box A, 92 Pike St, Seattle, WA 98101.

SOME OF THE INMATES living in Louisiana correctional institutes have been successful in obtaining money or material items from individuals living outside the institution. The inmates have done this by misrepresenting certain facts about themselves such as their age, sex, race, crime, release date, etc. These misrepresentations have been made through the mail or by telephone. Anyone wishing to learn the true status of a Louisiana inmate they are corresponding with prior to sending money or material items, please call (504) 342-6740 and ask for Mrs Goodes. You need not identify yourself to receive this information.

PRISONERS MALE

SOUTH AFRICAN BLACK, 28, 1.72 meters, 60 kg, seeks correspondence from others in similar situation. Like reading magazines and writing letters. Write SIMON NKODI, c/o Pricilla Jana, PO Box 61875, Marshalltown 2107, Johannesburg, Republic of South Africa.

BLACK MALE, 24, wishes to write to others who wish to reach out. I have a positive attitude and various interests. T Page, #178-649, Box 45699, Lucasville OH 45699-0001.

HI! MY NAME IS MATTHEW. Black, 29, 5'8" 147 lbs, single, sensitive, caring, loyal, trustworthy. I seek sensual appeal in likewise person. Please write Matthew Pollard, #174-383, Box 45699, Lucasville OH 45699-0001.

GAY MALE, 20, 5'8" 155 lbs, wishes to write to a man who is caring, outgoing, understanding, very passionate and sincere. Richard Acree #185-354, Box 45699, Lucasville OH 45699-0001.

I AM NOT LOOKING FOR ANYTHING but to share my thoughts and experience with someone who would like to do the same. I'm 33, 5'10" 140 lbs, brown eyes and hair, and am especially interested in gay news. John Tuten, #044014, Union Correctional Institute, SEU 20/285, Box 221, Raiford FL 32083.

IN NEED OF A FRIEND. Male, 29, green eyes, brown hair, 5'11" 175 lbs, needs letters from sincere men. Alton Edwin Urbauer, #100755, Box 97, McAlester OK 74501.

LONELY GAY MALE, looking for a true mate who is understanding and loveable. If it's you, please write to Eugene Hill, Union Correctional Institute, Box 221, Raiford, FLA 32083.

GAY MALE, 5'9" 196 solid lbs, brown hair, blue eyes, 22, enjoys sports, chess, reading, drawing. I don't like games, especially those of the mind. I am straightforward concerning all matters and am not violent. I am open about my sexuality. Please write to me, Michael Cowley, IDB 054845-J-3-289-B, Box 340, Sharpes, FLA 32939.

GWM, 29, 6'1" 190 lbs, brown hair, hazel eyes, in search of a gay friend and companion who will correspond with me. I am lonely and would appreciate communicating with sincere friends. Russell Wright, Box 41, #24071, Michigan City, IN 46360.

I AM IN SEARCH of gay friends or a companion who will write on a mutual basis. Asking no more than I am willing to give, I believe that understanding leads to knowledge, love and respect: things that are priceless. Floyd Tewell, 4048, Box 41, Michigan City, IN 46360.

YOUNG MALE seeks another male to form a sincere relationship with. Brown hair, blue eyes. I will answer all who write. Randy Hood, 153-45, Box 45699, Lucasville OH 45699-0001.

MALE, COLLEGE-EDUCATED, hoping to find someone special, I am 5'11" 167 lbs, brown hair, hazel eyes, 30 years old. Will answer any and all letters I receive. Aaron E Goodwin, 168-328, Box 45699, Lucasville OH 45699-0001.

SEEKING FRIENDSHIP AND RAPPORT with kindred spirit. Sincere, articulate, rapacious reader, cerebral, self-educated and rehabilitated. Gender, age, race unimportant. Mark Hardman, 164-374, Box 45699, Lucasville OH 45699-0001.

GWM LOOKING FOR SOMEONE to share my dreams and feeling with. 26, blond hair, blue eyes and a smile no prison can make disappear. Share your friendship with me. Will answer sincere people. Randy Cannon, 152-263, Box 97, McAlester OK 74501.

IN SEARCH OF A GAY COMPANION who will write with me on a mutual basis. I ask no more than I'm willing to give. T Jones, 24518, Box 41, Michigan City IN 46360.

LOOKING FOR SOMEONE honest and sincere with whom I can share my thoughts and ambitions and this big heart that needs to give as well as receive. David Miles, 27173, Box 41, Michigan City IN 46360.

GBM, 28, 5'11" brown eyes, would like to establish a relationship with another gay male. I have many interests I would like to share. Please write to Leon Goolsby, 151-622, Box 45699, Lucasville OH 45699-0001.

IT SURE GETS LONELY down here in the middle of the Florida swamps. I'm a bisexual male, 19, 6' and a muscular 190 lbs, green eyes, brown hair. My interests are music, weightlifting, poetry, reading and boating. I'll respond to all. Ronald Myers, 482908-20-169, Box 221, Raiford FL 32083.

A LONELY PRISONER. Handsome GWM, 22, seeks correspondence from anyone. Will answer all. Please put a smile in my heart. Charles Ward, 482771, Union Correctional Institute, SEU 20-224, Box 221 Raiford FL 32083.

SEEKING TRUE LOVE. Someone to share my thoughts, feelings and future plans with. I am 28, 5'11" 156 lbs, black hair, brown eyes. Am very lonely. Will answer all letters. Please write Larry Cash, 150946, Box 45699, Lucasville OH 45699-0001

BLACK MALE, 27, 6'4" 210 lbs, seeks someone to fulfill dreams with. I'm a very open person and have nothing to hide. If you're interested, please feel free to write because I will reply. Let's get to know each other. Larry Moore, 173820, Box 45699, Lucasville OH 45699-0001.

WM, 26, PHOTOGRAPHER at heart, in need of companionship. Body building, running and being healthy are everything to me. Non-smoker. Photo with my first letter. Larry Beougher, 184912, Box 69, London OH 43140-69.

INCARCERATED IN PRISON for a non-violent crime. I need to write to alleviate the stress of loneliness. I would appreciate corresponding with anyone. Please write to me with your thoughts and ideas. I would like to hear about you. Robert Yonge, 180994, Box 57, Marion OH 43302.

LONELY MAN needs open correspondence to establish meaningful relationship beyond mere physical characteristics. Sincere and creative, a romantic full of love who values inner qualities. Steve W Knight, 152172, Box 69, London, OH 43140.

INTERESTED IN STARTING NEW RELATIONSHIPS. 26, 5'10" 175 lbs with light brown hair and green eyes. Interests: reading, writing and meeting new people. Write to: Duke J Giglio, 053611-4, Lake Correctional Institution, Box 99, Clermont, FLA 32711.

HONEST BLACK GENTLEMAN interested in corresponding with anyone that's honest. Light-brown complexion, brown eyes, 6'1" 180 lbs. Your looks, race, age, sex, weight unimportant. Please write Eddie Alexander, 056715-72-221, Union Correctional Institution, Box 221, Raiford, FLA 32083.

GUY NEXT DOOR... needing TLC and companionship. 23, 6'3" 170 lbs, clean-shaven and considered very attractive. Seeks older male who can appreciate what I have to offer. Tommy Sprague, Box 57/178-941, Marion, OH 43302.

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• N A T I O N A L •

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GOOD-LOOKING GBM, US citizen, wishes to marry Canadian. Mutually-beneficial arrangement. Can we talk about it? Drawer G225.

• V A N C O U V E R •

GAY WOMAN, 31, WISHES to meet others for companionship and outings. I'm bright, strong, caring, witty, prosperous, together and honest. Delicious sense of humour. Am considered unusual... but worth considering. Drawer G305.

• T O R O N T O •

WANTED: GAY WOMAN

WHO LIKES MALE transvestites. We can get together for late evening meetings in my apartment or yours. You in my apartment or yours. You be the guy. I'll be the girl. You can dominate but no sex unless mutually agreed on. Discretion necessary. Telephone, address, photo please. Drawer G172.

LESBIAN, VERY SHY and quiet, seeks other lesbians for friendship only. Varied interests ranging from the relaxing to the adventurous (skydiving, anyone?) I love outdoor activities. If you believe in friendships built on solid foundations, reply to Drawer G211.

• Q U E B E C •

GAY WOMAN, 40s, ATTRACTIVE, sincere personality, well-educated, enjoys culture, history, outdoors, seeks similar for serious friendship. Discretion. Montreal/Western Quebec area. Let's meet. Drawer G247.

F R I E N D S M A L E

• I N T E R N A T I O N A L •

STRATFORD GWM SEEKING tennis/cycling partner and pen friends, professional, 5'8 and 1/2", 148lbs, 40's, sincere, honest, good-looking, seeking same from 18 to 45 yrs to share whirlpool, park trails, stereo and dinners with, also international traveller. Reply Box 432, Stratford ON N5A 6T3.

CAUC/LATIN/ASIANS 17-23

PASSIVE YOUNG BOYISH TYPE. Must be willing to relocate. Financial help available. I'm WM 33, fat, healthy. Must send photo and detailed letter: Richard Todd, Box 944, Del Mar CA 92014

THE MALE NIPPLE

THE MALE NIPPLE sometimes feels neglected. If you wish to glorify it and show others how beautiful, sensitive and erotic it can be, send pics, photos, articles etc to following box number. You will receive same. Discretion assured! Drawer G273

• C A N A D A •

WRITER RESEARCHING "BARE BOTTOM" discipline in Canadian institutions. Reciprocity guaranteed for "first hand" accounts. JD, 537 Jones, #3905, San Francisco CA 94102.

GWM 48, ENJOYS fishing, hiking, hunting, bicycling, friends, home, dinners, ballet, opera, music, movies, cards and other table games. Can travel extensively. Lost 29-year-old Canadian lover of 8 years to accident. Seeking new friends with mutual interests. Write Box 19223, Portland OR 97219.

• W E S T E R N C A N A D A •

SLAVE BOY WANTED

CB/TT B/D LEATHER. Detailed reply with phone gets reply. Ontario west. All scenes safe. Limits respected. Serve the best. Drawer G293.

• B R I T I S H C O L U M B I A •

STRONG, LOVING COUNTRY MAN

40, 6'2", BLOND/BLUE. I seek a companion to celebrate life together on the unfolding path of the spirit. Age, looks not important. If this strikes a cord, please write. Drawer G186.

NEW IN TOWN

GAY PROFESSIONAL 40, 5'10" 155 lbs, mustachioed, wide range of interests; always looking for new adventures. Phone anytime, 482-4634.

• C A L G A R Y •

GWM, 40, INTELLIGENT and responsible, seeks ass-oriented men for mutual, safe, long, steamy ass play sessions with enemas, toys, condoms, etc. Give and take. Complete discretion. All replies answered. Drawer G192.

SERIOUS INTENTIONS ONLY

I AM 40, GWM, OWN home, 5'10" 153 lbs, professional, secure, debt-free, non-scene, mature, discreet. Enjoy films, theatre, concerts, video, hiking, cycling, travel, quiet evenings, long talks, good dining. Seeking similar over 30 for companionship, possible relationship. Photo, phone, frank letter answered first. Drawer G295.

DYNAMIC CALGARIAN

GWM, 34, financially secure businessman wishes to meet similar type for possible relationship. No one-night stands. Let's talk! Drawer G270.

• S O U T H E R N O N T A R I O •

KNOT'N TO DO CUFF TIE CHAIN'T MET U.

ATTRACTIVE, 5'4", 24-YEAR-OLD seeks intelligent, together companion, into imaginative B/D, TT, spanking, etc. Preferably muscular, health conscious, articulate, romantic. London area. Send descriptive letter/phone number. Drawer G195.

LONDON GWM, 5'7", 37, beard, stable and secure, seeks friends who like quiet times and sharing. Drawer G218.

GWM LOOKING FOR down-to-earth male to share executive style home, leading to possible permanent relationship. K-W, Cambridge area. Drawer G231.

PHOTO: ARTEMIS



Anyone interested in ordering an Artemis photo can contact the artist at Croeselaan 285 bis, NL-3521 BS Utrecht, Netherlands.

CALGARY AREA

MASTER, 50, WANTS very submissive straight looking slave to 40's for periodic sessions, B/D, spanking, whipping, humiliation, mild S/M. No drugs. Drawer G193.

• E D M O N T O N •

YOUNG ATTRACTIVE SUPER-HUNG male seeks same for good times and safe times. Send picture and particulars. I have the tape measure. Drawer G292

• W I N N I P E G •

INTELLIGENT, REASONABLY ATTRACTIVE, low-key, romantic, monogamous, young professional wishing to meet/correspond with similar (25-35) with shared interests: classical music, literature, architecture, keeping fit, travel. Drawer G262

• T H U N D E R B A Y •

GWM MID-20s, looking for same, any race, any colour to share good times. Have varied interests. Photo appreciated. All letters answered. Drawer G230.

SLAVE REQUIRED

BY YOUTHFUL PROFESSIONAL IN SW Ontario with B/D interest, possible long-term relationship. Reply with returnable recent photo, if possible, stating age, etc. Drawer G268.

GWM, 28, 5'7", ATTRACTIVE, seeks other males of similar age in Kitchener/Cambridge area for safe sex sessions, J/O, massage. Not looking for relationship. Reply with phone. Drawer G275.

KITCHENER U.W. STUDENT

GAY MALE, 21, 5'8", attractive, honest, seeks male friends, 18 to 25. Photo and address to Box 35, STN O, Toronto ON M4A 2M8.

FLORIDA CHRISTMAS

OLDER GWM WITH SMALL MOTORHOME driving to Florida for the Christmas holidays is looking for younger companion. A reliable, honest, intelligent, straight-looking guy, student with driver's license offered an exciting vacation together. Discretion requested and assured. Letters and foto and details reply to Drawer G302.

YOU ARE TURNED ON by boots and work clothes. You are 35-55. I am GWM, 5'10" 165 lbs, 52, have kingcab to visit you for safe sex. My photo for yours. Toronto, Niagara, anywhere for right buddy. Drawer G244.

• S T C A T H A R I N E S •

EXHIBITIONIST — loves nudity, uniforms, dark hairy men preferred, tall, well-hung. Into oil massages, bondage. Age no barrier. Photo appreciated, phone. Drawer G237

• L O N D O N •

HOT TIMES NEEDED

SUBMISSIVE MALE, 33, 5'11" 170lbs, needs dominant, imaginative man to explore bondage, TT, C&BT, wax, enemas, dildoes, shaving, recycled beer and/or? Please write and tell me your plans. Drawer G220.

• H A M I L T O N •

HAMILTON AREA MALE, 26, slim, shy and attractive, looking for new friends, possibly more with right person. Descriptive letter appreciated. Drawer G162.

• O T T A W A •

LOVERS

MALE COUPLE, PROFESSIONALS, 30s, seeks same for friendship only. Box 3068 Stn D, Ottawa ON K1P 6H6.

ARE YOU IN OTTAWA?

I'M AN ATTRACTIVE good-looking GWM, 24, wholesome, boyish, brown hair, green eyes, smooth fair skin, clean-shaven, a nice guy. I have a healthy sex drive but I'm kind of shy. You're an attractive, good-looking man, 35 or under, with a warm, fun-loving personality, healthy and fit. You like relaxed, cuddly sex with an imaginative partner. No pain. No mind games. Safe sex please (condoms). Body hair is a plus. No booze. No drugs. All serious replies will be answered, I want to hear from you. Drawer G290.

GORGEOUS, ATTRACTIVE, HOT, hunky guy! Not really. Just a friendly, warm, caring type, 38, into long walks, talking, weekend travel. Interested? Drawer G277.

SOLID HAIRY REAL MEN WANTED

GWM, 24, SLIM, smooth, 5'10", br/br seeks broad shouldered strong topman for great sex, possible relationship. Me: professional, straight-acting/looking, healthy, bottomman, Gr/p, Fr/a/p, hung, safe sex, humorous, movies, sports. You: same, except: Gr/a, aggressive, hirsute, 25-55. Not Tom Selleck nor Godzilla, just average looking guy wanting to be overwhelmed by your physical presence. Will consider no reciprocation. Photo (returned) if you've got one. Police, military, football, farmers a plus. Visitors ok, with own location. Discretion guaranteed. Write Box 4639, Stn E, Ottawa ON K1S 5H8. All answered.

SUBMISSIVE MALE, 38, 5'8" 142 lbs, slim, clean, fit, seeks, dominant GWMs, over 30, (couple welcome) able to entertain. Experienced in B/D, enjoy giving orders, and who need to be sucked regularly. Detailed reply please. Drawer G261.

MALE SUBMISSIVE, 36, INTO B/D, W/S, needs occasional training by masculine, dominant younger guy. Your wish is my command, sir. Drawer G246.

NEED A HUG from time to time? Warm, caring newcomer to Ottawa, 38, offers in friendship what is lacking in beauty. Which is more important to you? Drawer G248.

• M O N T R E A L •

MOVING TO MONTREAL! Young 40-year-old guy from Chicago wants contacts and friends from Montreal. Let's correspond and meet. Have varied interests. Tim Fennel, 2A-7750 Deer Drive, Woodridge IL 60517. I read French but need help speaking it.

COMPOSER, 35, BEARDED, reasonably attractive, seeks romantic friendship with very intelligent, gentle guy under 40. Sexually, I favour thin swimmer types; am into safe sex, also mild S/M. Friendship first, serious only. Drawer G238.

• N O V A S C O T I A •

GWM, 27, 5'11" 190 lbs, professional, detached from gay lifestyle by choice, seeks attractive man to 30 for sincere friendship, possible relationship. I offer a great sense of humour, a love of the outdoors and cottage life, an interest in racquetball and nautilus, a truly progressive attitude, and desire similar attributes in a good friend. Letter, phone, photo. Drawer G280.

MASCULINE PROFESSIONAL GWM

32, GOOD-LOOKING, 5'8" 160 lbs, located in central Annapolis Valley. Enjoys tennis, golf, bowling, travelling and fun. Seeks males 21-28. Orientals welcome. Photo and phone appreciated. Drawer G274.

GWM, 31, 5'8" 145 lbs, seeking sincere, stable, discreet, non-smoking males, 30-35, Yarmouth and county. Drawer G260.

• H A L I F A X •

CAPE BRETON GWM, 40's, sincere, masculine, 5'7" 150lbs, versatile, enjoy travel, movies, french, greek or just good times together. Any age. Drawer G194.

SAFE SEX CAN BE FUN!

YARMOUTH AREA GWM would like to meet sincere guys of any age. I am 31, educated, friendly and definitely not into kinky sex. Please send phone number and we'll meet at my place. Drawer G182.

ATTRACTIVE GWM, MID-30s, looking for masculine guys for friendship. Possibly J/O, safe sex. Photo and phone appreciated. Drawer G298.

• NEW BRUNSWICK •

ENIGMA

BLACK HAIR AND EYES, 34 plus, brown or tanned, Sagittarius, excellent health, no drugs, serious only. I am GWM, 34, 5'6" 142 lbs, healthy, monogamy desired. Drawer G234.

• T O R O N T O •

GWM, 24, DISABLED, 5'6" 92 lbs, brown hair, grey eyes. Interests: music, theatre, dining, quiet evenings. Don't drink, drugs. Seeks male 21-30 for friendship. Photo phone. Drawer G149.

GWM, 26, 5'8" 120 lbs, looking for smooth, young, muscular, submissive partner who appreciates receiving oral and tactile worship. Toronto—Hamilton area. Photo appreciated, will return on request. Drawer G161.

TRUCKER WANTS YOU!

RIDES THE ROADS, needs horny action weekends. You're 21-39, deep throat, tight ass, good build, into leather, boots, some S/M, looking for safe hot action with attractive assertive GWM, 36, 5'10" 165 lbs. Send interests, phone number, photo if available (returnable) today to Box 1150, Station F, Toronto ON M4Y 2T4.

WE'RE WORTH IT

GM, 28, 5'7" 135 lbs, seeks stable fit, uncloseted male, 21-35. My interest are tennis, classical music, dancing, chess, cards. I will be a U of T student in September 86; therefore other students especially welcome for campus whatever. Filipinos and hommes Canadiens français also especially welcome. Drawer G70

FUN SEX

AMA HOT GUY, 5'11" 145 lbs, 29, handsome. Seeks a guy to meet for kinky, hot sex/friendship. No commitments, just great fun. Photo gets mine. Drawer G184.

HOT MAN, 40, 5'8" 150 lbs, clean shaven, uncut, seeks lover, must be 25-45. Slim, handsome, horny, well-hung, fun and professional. Drawer G187.

TORONTO BIKERS

TORONTO TO LONDON. Are you tall, very good looking, muscular build, 21-30? Do you like wearing tight levis and leather gear? Would you like to give some head or just a good fuck to an attractive, submissive GWM in a health-conscious, safe sex scene. Reciprocation not necessary. However if you were to rub my crotch sore with your heavy boot, that would be nice. Does the idea turn you on? Then turn me on with your photo(s) and letter. Discretion assured. Your place. Also hot cops, leathermen, engineers, construction type, etc. Write Drawer G215.

MASTER SEEKS SUBMISSIVES either sex considered. Into B/D, S/M, T/T, F/F, toys, strapping, spanking. Limits respected. Detailed reply with phone. Drawer G214.

ARE YOU SEEMINGLY ATYPICAL?

GWM, 24, 6'3" 195 lbs, handsome, straight-seeming. I'm a responsible professional who enjoys friends and family, tennis, swimming, dining out, movies, long walks, all music (especially jazz, classical and R&B). My gayness is only one small facet of my personality and has not become the dominant characteristic of my existence. There must be others like me out there. Let's meet. Drawer G300.

GWM, HOT MUSCULAR BODY, blond, blue eyes, moustache, 5'7" 145 lbs, hung, youthful 34. Passive, like to have things done to me. We'll decide what. You: firm muscular body, 21-35, like to take charge. Safe sex only. Descriptive letter and photo guarantees reply. Drawer G208.

GWM 2SOME SEEKS singles or other 2somes for sizzling action. Drawer G120.

HEALTHY GWM, SEEKING SOLID, monogamous relationship with a man who, like me, values sincerity, sensitivity, humour and warmth. I enjoy my friends, career, travel, hiking, biking, running, reading, conversation, etc. I'm 32, 5'8" 130 lbs, dark hair and beard. Phone number appreciated. Drawer G233.

WHY DO IT ALONE? Are there any men between 25 and 40 interested in sharing mutually stimulating situations, J/O and oral fantasies, hot group sessions and phone talk. If so, please reply with descriptive letter and phone number. Drawer G232.

ORIENTAL LOVER WANTED BY

GWM, TALL, SLIM, 42. Sincere, interested in classical music, fitness, quiet times, serious, monogamous relationship. Honest replies only. Drawer G163.

SPANKING, CUTE 22-year-old student seeks masculine muscular male to 35 for cuddling, spanking and friendship. Drawer G236.

NATIVE INDIAN

SMOOTH, HAIRLESS BODY, looking for imaginative workouts with 30's to 40's males. Should enjoy tit play, kissing and mild S/M. Am well-educated, successful, and you should be the same. Photo and phone. Drawer G241.

SAFESEX, J/O, TOYS, cuddling, movies, quiet times, walks, talks? Versatile, healthy, fit, uncut GWM, 40, wants to share these with you. Any race welcome. Prefer intelligent, clean-shaven, large, trim, sensual non-smoker under 30. Relationship can be casual, permanent and/or supportive. Picture and detailed letter helpful, but all answered. Drawer G242.

GWM WANTS COWBOY, construction worker or similar, 25-35 for long-term monogamous relationship. Write detailed letter with photo and phone. Out of town replies welcome. Drawer G243.

GWM, 30, INTERESTS: Marilyn Monroe, pro-wrestling, dancing, movies, dining out, Hollywood, flea markets, Grace Jones, J/O sessions, bondage. Seeks same for friendship. I'm 5'8" 170 lbs. Drawer G245.

DO YOU HAVE LONG HAIR?

THEN I WANT YOU! I'm GWM 31, sincere, friendly, romantic, very warm. I need love and long-term relationship with someone similar. Oriental preferred. Please send photo to Drawer G251.

ROMANTIC, CONSIDERATE, GENTLE, stable, hairy cuddler, forties, 5'8" 165 lbs, sincerely seeks an intimate, caring, monogamous relationship with same to 40. Dislikes bars. Recent photo appreciated. Drawer G252.

SUBMISSIVE GWM, 25, BROWN hair, moustache, slim. This tight young man is looking for dominant man, 30+, to stretch my capabilities. You must be loving and gentle with me. Let's share quiet weeks and fun weekends and see what we have in common. Drawer G253.

RELAXING MESSAGE

ARE THERE ANY well-built men out there who would enjoy receiving a relaxing massage with oil, cream or warm soapy water (in a shower) by a good-looking, tanned, hairy, masculine, discreet male? Just drop me a line with your phone number, if possible. All letters will get a response but ones with a picture will get it first. Drawer G254.

PROFESSIONALLY-QUALIFIED, CONSERVATIVE, discreet GWM, 50-years-old, living downtown Toronto seeks friendship with same, in age range 25-35. Drawer G256.

I'M LOOKING FOR A MATE, a man who wants to live in the bush, a loving, self-loving man who knows how to live his own life. I'm 43, fit, physically and spiritually, vegetarian, drug free, gentle, at peace with myself, in love with life, and looking for a companion and comrade. I'm in Toronto, but heading for a clearing in the woods where I'll create a healing place for retreat and gathering. I'm a man looking for a man to celebrate life and love with. Drawer G263.

AN ATTRACTIVE CHINESE who believes in sharing seeks friendship, possible relationship, with male 20-35, all races. I am caring, stable, honest, and have a sense of humour with the right person. Drawer G264.

MARRIED PROFESSIONAL NEEDS warm cuddler to reintroduce me to the pleasures of an active relationship. I'm 36, 6', brown eyes and hair, moustached, straight-appearing. All answered. Photo appreciated. Box 437, Stn A, Toronto ON M5W 1C2.

GWM, 38, SEEKS male for long massage, jerk-off sessions, safe-sex suck, and ass work. Great times guaranteed. Box 294, Streetsville PO, Mississauga ON L5M 2B8.

BODYBUILDER, 36, VERY ATTRACTIVE, 5'10" 170 lbs, brown/blue, clean shaven, likes camping, canoeing, sailing, skiing, tennis, biking, seeks same, 25-35, for weight-training partner, friendship, possible relationship. Photo required. Box 1395, Stn B, Mississauga ON L4Y 4B6.

AUTUMN ROMANCE

WARM, PASSIONATE white male, 45, 5'10" 165 lbs, looking for romantic younger lover who is also looking for a monogamous life-long relationship filled with travel, romantic evenings, theatre, dancing, the arts and genuine love. Let's begin this autumn. Happiness is taking a chance. Box 100, 260 Adelaide St E, Toronto ON M5A 1N1.

GWM, 29, DARK HAIR, moustache, loves being fucked with huge cocks, dildos, cucumbers. Also phone sex. Live your fantasy. Let's cum together. Photo, phone. Drawer G282.

ARE YOU LIKE ME, 25-40, athletic, moustached, sincere, enjoy travelling, music, interesting foods, friendship? If yes, please respond soon. Drawer G269.

GWM, 37, 6'1" 155 LBS, attractive, established professional, north of Toronto, likes antiques, gardening, books, music, travel, but finds life very lonely. Do we share things in common? Are you my age or younger? If so, and if you also are hoping to build a special, long-lasting relationship, please write! Drawer G271.

WATERSPORTS

THIS 24-YEAR-OLD GWM BEGINNER is looking to get into the watersports scene, especially looking for thick-cocked hairy man. Photo and hot letter appreciated. Drawer G276.

TALL, ATTRACTIVE, MUSCULAR TOP GUY, 31, seeks hairy-chested short guy, preferably a fellow bodybuilder, 35-45, for safe fun and possible relationship. Drawer G278.

LOOKING FOR FELLOW J/O FANS who are hot, hung and horny. I'm 33, swimmer's build, moustached, personable. Let's meet! Drawer G279.

WET SHORTS

WANTED: MEN to wet their jock straps and jeans for me. I am 34, 6' 165 lbs, moustache. I will wet my pants for you. Reply with explicit letter to Drawer G272.

CAN WE TALK?

ATTRACTIVE.... 5'9" 150 lbs, moustached, dark, wavy hair... professional, fun-loving passive GWM with a "joie de vivre" that is fueled by everything from classical music to rock; gourmet to junk food; parties to intimate dinners; Rio to cottage country; raunchy sex to cuddling. Looking for a dominant man with a similar "joie de vivre" ... who is attractive, 30ish to 40ish, independent, secure, and wants to share life with that special someone. Write with phone number and photo (not necessary). All replies answered. Drawer G267.

CREATIVE DOMINATION

IMAGINATIVE MASTER WILL HELP serious and fit submissives of either sex fulfill their needs in B/D, S/M, toys, enema, T/T and/or ?? Discretion assured. Limits respected. Detailed reply with phone to Drawer G265.

GWM COUPLE, 32 and 42, seeks male(s) for sex, 30 or under. G/A, F/A, J/O, video, phone J/O, W/S. Toronto or Lake Muskoka. Photo and phone to Drawer G266.

GAY MALE, 23, BLOND, blue eyes, attractive (so I'm told), and intelligent (something I know). I'm quiet, discreet, not into bar scene, and have many interests. I seek mature men to 45, who, like me, are fixated on a uniform fetish. Especially mounted unity military, nazi, RCMP are welcome to write for friendship and possible relationship. Photo, phone appreciated and returned. Please sir, frisk me and fuck me. Reply to Drawer G281.

HUNKY, HAIRY, HUNG, exhibitionist. You've got it, flaunt it, any age, voyeur awaits. Drawer G284.

I AM A HANDSOME and sane GWM, 51, 6'1" 170 lbs, brown, blue, financially well off. Top in life, Bottom in sex. While I do practice safe sex, I am also into F/F, multiple partners, moderate drugs and other kinky scenes. I want to establish a relationship with another good-looking, open-minded and stimulating GM, 30 to 55, to enjoy life with, go new places with, discover new and exciting things to do. I do not want someone that I'll have to drag along in life. It is total mutual support and commitment that I am looking for. He shall 1) accept and love himself the way he is, 2) be financially well off, 3) Bottom in life and Top in sex, 4) with big uncut cock, low hangers and no body hair. The purpose is to look at the possibility of merging our lives together for a greater financial and emotional advantage, thus creating, with synergy, a powerful relationship that will bring growth, support, satisfaction and joy to us both. There is someone out there that meets my requirements. If you are that one, make the move and answer my ad. If you are serious, I suggest you read it again, very, very carefully. Drawer G285.

ARE YOU HORNY TOO? Attractive GWM, 36, seeks clean, masculine male 35-50 who is cut, GR/A FR A/P, for safe, regular workouts. Let's have a beer, watch a video, and keep warm this winter. Serious detailed replies to Drawer G286.

GWM, NEW IN TOWN, 29, 5'6" 130 lbs, nice looking, works out, physically and mentally healthy, positive, humorous, reliable, social, energetic, affectionate, not faultless, varied interests, seeks friendship (relationship?) with bright and interesting man 25-35. This could be fun! Send letter, description, all answered. Drawer G287.

IVY LEAGUE ADVENTURE

ESTABLISHED MASCULINE PROFESSIONAL, 37, outwardly fit, stable, discreet, successful. Privately uninhibited, witty, adventurous, with a zest for life and broad eclectic interests (including hearth and quiet homelife). Seeks similar Renaissance man to share mutual needs, understanding, support and generally enjoy life with. Drawer G288.

TALL, SEXY, 32, LIKE WEARING TITCLAMPS and receiving G/S, also give French front and rear to hung topmen. Letter, picture, phone. Wayne, Drawer G289.

HAPPY, HEALTHY, SANE

VERY ATTRACTIVE GWM, now 30+, desires monogamous relationship (really!). 5'10" 140 lbs, professional, reasonably affluent, bilingual, libertarian, seeks similar young or young-looking, intelligent, witty, non-religious partner. For winners only! Drawer G291.

GWM, 23, 5'11" 165 lbs semi-athletic, seeks a friend to 25. I am quiet, understanding and a good listener. Considered attractive, dry wit and a terrible cook. Likes music, quiet times and good food. NO drugs. Photo with reply to Drawer G294.

CARIBBEAN CHRISTMAS VACATION?

GWM, 40, 5'10" 160 lbs, moustache, whose interests are many and include scuba diving, swimming, suntanning, hiking, walking, photography and video seeks non-smoking, well-built buddy, 20-40, to share Christmas/New Year Caribbean island vacation. Flexible between Dec 20 to Jan 4. Photo/phone to Drawer G297.

DOWNTOWN, BUT NOT into downtown scene? Young (23), tall (6' 2"), slim (160 lbs), attractive (considered by others) GWM seeks an older (26-36) unattached, ego-less man. Are you a tall, hirsute and handsome WM, with a moustache (to tickle, my, uh, fancy)?! My world includes photography, writing, reading, long walks, big hugs, safe sex and sharing myself with another (hopefully soon). Searching for a guy who can offer stability, cuddling, honesty, friendship, caring, passion and a possible serious relationship. If the shoe fits...! Please respond with detailed letter, photo and phone. Drawer G296.

HOT BUNS

GWM seeks well-built guys who need the expertise of an untiring heavy hand with a personal touch guaranteed to please. Photo/phone and details of your requirements to Drawer G299.

NEW IMMIGRANT GAY 38 YRS OLD

SEEKS GENUINE FRIEND for possible relationship. Am not looking for a one-night-stand. Interests are varied, from theatre to outings. If you are 33 yrs and under, please contact Drawer G255.

PHOTOS ARE MEMORIES

FRIENDS, LOVERS, PORTRAITS. Canvas or matte mounted, ideal for Christmas. Phone for appointment. Richard Plowright, twice national award winner. 532-4380. Do something special.

MEDITERRANEAN LOOK, GWM, early 30s in good shape. I believe in enjoying life and moderation in everything. Interested in cultural affairs and other good things including safe sex. If you relate with those issues reply to Drawer G301.

PROFESSIONAL, GAY CULTURED ORIENTAL male: 24, tall, attractive; seeks attractive, responsible man between 21-32 who shares interests in music, art and articulate conversations over dinner. Drawer G304.

SPANK-O-GRAPHY

GUYS INTERESTED IN EXPERIENCING the pleasures of spankography please contact me, GWM, I am a specialist. Drawer G303.

PHOTO CONTEST EXTENDED

Enter The Body Politic's Photo Contest before November 15 and you still have a chance at \$600 in prizes!

Winners will be published in The Body Politic's 15th anniversary issue. Send us your entries today!

First prize is \$300.
Second prize is \$200
and third prize, \$100.

THE RULES

1. Photographs must be on the theme of gay life.
2. Photographs must be black and white. Maximum size is 9 1/4 inches wide by 12 inches deep. Photographs must be submitted unmounted. On the back of each photograph entered you must print your name, address and phone number. Colour prints or slides are not acceptable.
3. All entries must be received by November 15, 1985.
4. Entries will not be returned. All winning entrants agree that Pink Triangle Press will have sole right to use the winning photographs for editorial or promotion purposes without compensation other than proper credit to the photographer.
5. Entrants guarantee that photographs submitted have not been previously published and are not subject to any copyright other than the entrant's. Signed releases must be available for photographs showing recognizable person(s).
6. Names of the winners and the winning photographs will be published in the January 1987 issue of The Body Politic.
7. Entrants agree that their work may appear, without compensation, in a public art gallery as part of a show on the theme of contemporary gay life. If their work is selected to appear, entrants will be informed and work will be properly credited.
8. Employees of Pink Triangle Press and staff photographers for The Body Politic and Xtra are not eligible. A staff photographer is defined as someone whose name has appeared on the masthead of The Body Politic or Xtra after February 28, 1986.
9. Judges' decision is final. Prizes must be accepted as awarded.
10. Entries must be mailed to: Body Politic Photo Contest, Box 7289, Stn A, Toronto ON M5W 1X9. Pink Triangle Press accepts no liability for loss or damage of entries.

Deadline — November 15, 1987

PREPARATIONS

by Steve Hutton

"Twenty-four hours between meeting and screwing," thought Dave, "was practically courtship." And thank God for the time to prepare ...

At eight o'clock on a Saturday morning (three hours before he usually got out of bed), Dave was awake. The night before, he'd met Rick, a guy he really liked, who seemed to like him, and they hadn't had sex. They probably would tonight though, after a trip to the zoo this afternoon and dinner at Crispins.

In many ways, Dave was glad they hadn't had sex last night. First, he felt thrilled to be part of the trend towards gay *dating*. (Twenty-four hours between meeting and screwing was practically *courtship*.) Second, they'd probably start at a decently early hour when both were wide awake and neither was likely to commit a social gaffe like yawning while being blown. Third, and most important, Dave would have time to make the appropriate safe-sex preparations.

He'd read that safe fisting involved calving gloves. He wasn't quite sure what a calving glove was, but he *did* want to be prepared. Where do you get a calving glove? Do you drive out to the country and ask a farmer if you can borrow one for the evening? And what do you say when he asks why you want one? Dave's apartment building had a strict no-pets policy, which was usually in-

voked against dogs and cats, but which certainly applied to bovine creatures as well. Was he to pretend he had a herd of cattle in his one-bedroom apartment in the Annex?

You shouldn't conclude from this that Dave was an avid fistfucker, or even that he did it from time to time. In fact, he'd never done it and had serious doubts that it was physically possible, but he wanted to be prepared just in case.

At least for oral sex, he didn't need to buy anything. He'd read that you shouldn't swallow cum, so he practised holding water in his mouth for long periods of time without swallowing. Before long, he was so good that he could watch comedy shows with a mouth full of water. He made it through *The Cosby Show*, *Family Ties*, and 10 minutes of *Golden Girls* before shooting his load onto the couch. Safe sex, then, meant "no felatio when *Bea Arthur's* on."

Then, he'd read that you shouldn't let the guy cum in your mouth at all. It reminded him of high school, when he and Billy Daniels used to see who could shoot the farthest or who could cum first, and he'd sometimes even put Billy's cock in his mouth and suck on it even though they were

definitely not fairies. Billy never came in Dave's mouth because they both agreed that would be gross and that was the sort of thing fairies did. Later, he'd learned that it tasted pretty good, but these days the only cum he tasted was his own.

Rimming? He checked the kitchen for Saran Wrap. All out. Would waxed paper do? Probably not.

Anal sex? Water-balloon time! He'd been so nervous the first time he walked into the store and ordered some. (Who would have dreamed he'd ever need them?) The pharmacist asked, "What brand would you like?" "Whatever's most popular." He was 25 years old, but felt as if he were 10 years younger. At any moment the pharmacist would phone his parents and say, "This boy's been trying to buy contraceptives," and he'd be dragged on home and have a bit of explaining to do.

Since then, he'd learned a fair bit about condoms. Some are made of latex and others are made of sheep gut, but the latex ones are stronger, so you should get them. (That was a relief. Putting a sheep intestine on his dick was a bit too close to bestiality. I mean, fucking a man is great, and fucking a sheep might be OK, but fucking a man and a sheep at the same time is just disgusting).

These days, he was quite suave as he strolled into the drug store and ordered "the usual." He'd tried out six or seven different brands and found one that he really liked. He now had a fierce brand loyalty. If a man standing in front of a hidden camera offered him two boxes of "the cheaper brand" for one box of his own, he'd refuse and offer a quaint story that fit into a 30-second commercial spot.

Dave noted that he had plenty of rubbers and several tubes of K-Y. He added Saran Wrap and calving gloves to the shopping list. As he headed for the Eaton Centre (there *must* be a calving glove in there somewhere) he wondered if he was leaving anything out. He really wanted tonight to work, but he wasn't completely sure about safe sex yet, or about any sex for that matter.

He might have worried less had he known that his date and a few thousand others of us were going through exactly the same thing. ●



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